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For Collectors
of the
LIBERTY SEATED COIN SERIES

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A SEATED DIME COLLECTION

I was recently fortunate enough to purchase a nice partial set of Liberty Seated dimes, complete except for the rarest dates. This collection was put together in the 1960's. It is listed here in its entirety. This is a first time offering. All coins are original and uncleaned unless otherwise noted. I urge you to examine this list closely and give me a call.

SEATED DIMES

1837	Small Date, G-VG	$ 22
1837	Large Date, VG, nice color	30
1838-O	G+	26
1838	Small stars, VG, old toning	21
1838	Fine, heavy obv. die crack	16
1838	VF-EF, choice	35
1839	Fine	12
1839-O	G-VG	9
1840	No Drapery, Fine, scruffy	6
1840-O	No Drapery, G	6
1841	Fine, multi-color toning	9
1841-O	F-VF	26
1842	G	4
1842-O	G-VG	9
1843	VF, nice multi-color toning	22
1843-O	F-VF, nice original	95
1844	VG	38
1845-O	VG+	18
1846	VG-F, multi-color toning	75
1847	VF	45
1848	G-VG	8
1849	VF-30, nice	28
1849-O	Fine	24
1850	VF-30, nice	21
1850-O	Fine	24
1851-O	VG	12
1852	Fine	6
1852-O	VF-30, very nice	115
1853	No Arrows, G-VG	34
1853-O	Arrows, G-VG, obv. die crack	12
1854-O	VF, weak O, Breen #3286	25
1855	Fine	8
1856	Small Date, VG	6
1856	Large Date, VF	19
1857-O	Fine	8
1858-O	G-VG	14
1859	F-VF	13
1859-O	G/AG	5
1859-S	VG-F	80
1860-S	G/VG	17
1861	Fine, dark toning	7
1861-S	VF-20, nice toning	110
1862-S	VG-F	34
1863-S	VF-20, nice	50
1864-S	G-VG, obverse scratch	11

SEATED DIMES

1865-S	VG	$ 17
1866-S	Fine	30
1867-S	F-VF	45
1868	VF-30, nice	28
1868-S	VF-35, lovely	75
1869	VG	9
1869-S	VG-F	11
1870	F-VF	8
1871	EF-40, nice	33
1871-S	Fine, nice	23
1872	VF	13
1872-S	VF-30	120
1873	No Arrows, Closed 3, EF-40+	42
1873	Arrows, VG-F	12
1873-S	Fine	19
1874-S	Fine, Breen #3375, rare	75
1875	VF-35, nice	12
1875-CC	Mintmark in wreath, Fine	12
1875-CC	Mintmark below wreath, EF-40	52
1875-S	Mintmark in wreath, VG	8
1875-S	Mintmark below wreath, VG	8
1876	Type II reverse, EF-40, rare	45
1876-CC	EF-40, nice	19
1876-S	Tall s, VF-30, Breen #3393	75
1877	Type I rev., VF-35, Breen #3401	75
1877-CC	Type I reverse, F-VF	25
1877-CC	Type II reverse, VF-35	11
1877-S	VF-30	11
1878	EF-45, mottled toning	19
1878-CC	Type I reverse, VF, very rare	175
1882	EF-45, nice toning	21
1883	VF	8
1884	F+	6
1884	EF-45+, choice, old toning	30
1884-S	Fine	21
1885	EF-40	15
1886	XF/AU, sharp	25
1886-S	VG-F	48
1887	VF, multi-color toning	10
1887-S	VF-35, nice	13
1889-S	Small s, VG+, Breen #3447	25
1890	Fine	5
1890-S	F-VF	23
1891-O	F-VF	8
1891-S	VF-25, nice toning	12

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CONTENTS

LIBERTY SEATED DIME SURVEY RESULTS: SECTION 1
By Gerard Fortin, Brian Greer and Robert Spangler 3

MINT STATE SEATED DOLLARS: POPULATION REPORT NUMBERS VERSUS CONVENTIONAL WISDOM
By Arthur S. Weisel 12

LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLARS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
By Bill Bugert 17

LSCC SPRING REGIONAL MEETINGS 24

A NEW VARIETY FOR THE 1873-S HALF DIME
By Michael Schmidt 26

THE 1875-CC QUARTER REVISITED
By Weimar W. White 29

EXTENDED VERTICAL LINES IN THE REVERSE SHIELD OF LIBERTY SEATED QUARTERS
By Robert A. Izydore 33

HISTORICAL FACTS FOR 1873
By Harry X Boosel 37

A NEW VARIETY OF THE 1876 QUARTER
By Christopher F. Pilliod 39

AN 1840-O HALF DIME WITH THE 1839-O LARGE O REVERSE
By Brian Greer 41

AN EARLIER DIE STATE OF THE 1844 REPUNCHED DATE HALF DIME
By Bill Fivaz 45

AN 1876-CC DIME WITH EXTRA DATE PUNCHES IN GOWN
By Louis R. Stubler 47

AN 1839 NO DRAPERY HALF DOLLAR WITH REVERSE DIE CRACK
By Byron E. Powell 49

OFF CENTER 1887-S DIMES 51

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR 52

Liberty Seated Dime Survey Results: Section 1

by

Gerard Fortin, Brian Greer and Robert Spangler

The Liberty Seated dime series spans a total of 54 years with many key dates. This survey indicates that all dates are available with the exception of the unique 1873-CC without arrows. However, choice examples of some of the key dates may take years to acquire. Completion of the series in XF or better condition is most difficult. Dates with mintages under 500,000 are numerous while key date coins exhibit mintages under a meager 50,000 pieces. Choice examples of the early New Orleans dates, the Civil War Philadelphia dates and the extremely rare early Carson City dates are ultimate challenges. For a die variety collector armed with Kam Ahwash's standard reference, the *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Dimes,* an opportunity presents itself to spend many enjoyable hours at coin shows searching for those subtle die differences.

The Liberty Seated Dime Survey was conducted from October to December, 1989. The tabulation and analysis of the population data was an enjoyable project. It is hoped that LSCC members will utilize this data to evaluate their collections or to aid their purchasing decisions. A sincere *thank you* to all those who took the time to complete the survey forms and contributed to the success of this endeavor.

A Review of Possible Survey Biases

This survey was undertaken to collect population data on the Seated dime series and augment recent LSCC surveys on the other Liberty Seated denominations. As with any survey, these results are not a true random sampling of the general population of surviving pieces. Numerous data biases are generated by the collecting methods and objectives of each respondent. These reporting biases were discussed in the article documenting the Half Dime Survey Results in Issue #41 of the *Journal.* Readers are encouraged to review these biases. When reviewing the survey results, please keep in mind the bias created by the buying habits of individual members. Median or average grade data should also be exmined in the same light for rarer dates.

Survey Results

A strong survey response of 131 replies resulted in 8,901 coins being identified for Section 1 of the survey: *Dates and Major Red Book Varieties.* Section 2 of the survey report will focus on predominant varieties as discussed in the *Ahwash Encyclopedia.* This report will be published in the next issue of the *Journal.*

Individual mint frequency rankings illlustrated in Tables 1-4 also feature associated median and average grades for each respective date. The median grade can be defined as the 50% point of a statistical distribution or the "middle" coin for that date with all coins ranked in an increasing numerical whole grade progression. These numerical whole grades, such as F-12 or AU-50 were those utilized for the survey questionnaire. A few incidents of EF-45 or AU-55 will be noted as the median grade where the middle coin theoretically exits between equal quantities of coins above and below that grade. The average grade, on the other hand, is simply the sum of all the reported whole numerical grades divided by the total number of coins for that date.

Survey Results, Liberty Seated Dimes by Frequency and Grade

Date	Total	G 4-7	VG 8-11	F 12-19	VF 20-29	VF 30-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60	MS 63	MS 65+	PF 60+
1837	112	20	28	22	10	6	14	6	1	2	1	2
1838-O	71	24	11	12	5	7	5	4	1	1	1	0
1838 SS	65	14	10	11	7	5	8	9	1	0	0	0
1838 LS	131	18	26	13	23	9	21	15	4	1	1	0
1838 PD	32	3	4	3	4	6	6	4	1	0	1	0
1839	83	16	5	13	9	6	17	11	1	2	2	1
1839-O	123	27	19	13	16	11	25	9	2	1	0	0
1840 ND	80	12	12	7	8	12	15	10	2	2	0	0
1840-O ND	85	24	19	10	7	5	12	5	2	0	1	0
1840 WD	52	7	9	8	7	5	11	4	0	0	1	0
1841	69	11	7	15	6	6	16	4	0	4	0	0
1841-O	139	24	13	26	27	9	25	11	1	2	1	0
1842	84	16	5	16	10	8	16	7	3	1	1	1
1842-O	98	12	12	27	14	14	11	7	0	0	1	0
1843	107	8	15	15	16	10	24	9	5	3	1	1
1843-O	52	12	7	10	8	8	6	0	1	0	0	0
1844	62	9	11	19	8	2	6	4	1	1	0	1
1845	110	10	11	20	13	12	23	11	4	3	2	1
1845-O	74	22	11	15	11	5	8	1	1	0	0	0
1846	50	6	9	18	5	3	6	1	0	0	1	1
1847	91	8	20	23	12	10	10	3	4	1	0	0
1848	77	9	13	13	12	12	10	5	0	2	0	1
1849	94	6	14	15	7	12	24	11	3	1	0	1
1849-O	99	12	13	24	17	14	13	4	2	0	0	0
1850	105	11	7	28	18	8	18	10	1	1	2	1
1850-O	84	17	15	18	13	7	11	1	0	1	1	0
1851	83	10	9	13	15	11	18	5	1	0	1	0
1851-O	58	2	7	19	4	10	9	5	1	1	0	0
1852	95	13	5	22	18	14	15	5	0	0	2	1
1852-O	61	3	11	12	9	6	12	4	2	1	1	0
1853 NA	43	2	4	12	6	3	10	2	2	0	2	0
1853 WA	206	30	21	35	37	20	44	13	1	2	2	1
1853-O	71	5	14	16	15	4	12	4	1	0	0	0
1854	94	18	5	21	13	8	19	6	2	0	1	1
1854-O	77	10	5	20	18	10	11	1	1	0	1	0
1855	71	11	2	13	17	8	14	4	0	0	1	1
1856 SD	106	15	10	16	18	12	23	7	2	2	0	1
1856 LD	92	9	14	11	22	16	16	2	0	1	1	0
1856-O	118	20	11	30	19	12	15	6	3	1	1	0
1856-S	34	2	5	7	8	3	7	0	1	0	1	0
1857	111	10	15	20	15	10	30	8	1	0	1	1
1857-O	101	5	9	18	18	19	21	7	1	2	1	0
1858	74	5	10	14	8	8	18	5	3	1	1	1
1858-O	58	7	13	11	5	8	6	7	1	0	0	0
1858-S	41	5	3	10	7	5	7	2	1	1	0	0
1859	71	5	7	16	11	5	16	6	1	1	0	3

Date	Total	G 4-7	VG 8-11	F 12-19	VF 20-29	VF 30-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60	MS 63	MS 65+	PF 60+
1859-O	96	7	17	20	10	10	21	9	0	1	1	0
1859-S	39	5	4	10	10	2	6	1	1	0	0	0
1860-S	49	3	6	13	9	6	9	1	2	0	0	0
1860	60	2	1	10	16	4	13	7	3	2	1	1
1860-O	32	7	6	4	4	3	5	2	0	0	1	0
1861	82	2	2	18	10	11	24	9	3	2	0	1
1861-S	35	2	4	4	11	3	9	1	0	0	1	0
1862	63	4	6	12	9	5	15	8	0	1	1	2
1862-S	41	7	4	7	11	6	5	0	0	0	1	0
1863	28	2	1	3	1	5	2	4	1	1	1	7
1863-S	43	6	5	12	3	4	9	1	1	1	1	0
1864	33	3	0	4	4	2	5	5	1	5	1	3
1864-S	49	1	4	13	10	8	8	4	0	0	1	0
1865	31	1	2	3	4	3	5	4	1	0	1	7
1865-S	44	2	2	12	11	5	9	1	1	1	0	0
1866	28	3	1	2	2	5	6	4	0	0	1	4
1866-S	35	1	4	7	10	1	7	2	2	1	0	0
1867	26	0	2	3	1	2	4	1	2	1	3	7
1867-S	47	3	4	10	9	7	9	2	2	0	1	0
1868	65	6	4	14	14	7	9	4	0	1	1	5
1868-S	40	7	7	5	5	5	8	2	0	0	1	0
1869	52	4	2	14	6	7	13	1	1	1	0	3
1869-S	55	3	5	9	8	11	14	2	1	0	2	0
1870	74	4	2	14	12	4	17	7	5	3	1	5
1870-S	37	4	6	8	4	5	6	1	1	1	1	0
1871	81	4	5	15	18	9	19	4	2	0	0	5
1871-CC	25	7	3	8	2	0	4	0	1	0	0	0
1871-S	41	1	1	7	11	6	6	7	1	0	1	0
1872	74	4	6	15	8	9	21	4	3	1	0	3
1872-CC	28	2	5	8	3	1	7	2	0	0	0	0
1872-S	38	0	5	5	5	4	14	3	0	2	0	0
1873 NA C3	57	6	2	7	5	9	16	5	2	2	1	2
1873 NA O3	59	3	4	7	14	11	11	6	2	1	0	0
1873 WA	90	3	14	23	14	8	20	4	2	0	0	2
1873-CC WA	27	3	2	8	4	3	6	0	0	1	0	0
1873-S	53	6	7	10	9	4	9	6	1	0	1	0
1874	77	7	5	17	15	8	14	5	3	0	1	2
1874-CC	24	2	3	7	6	0	5	0	0	1	0	0
1874-S	44	4	4	12	5	5	10	3	0	0	1	0
1875	88	11	9	10	12	12	17	11	3	1	0	2
1875-CC IW	92	7	8	7	13	18	21	12	4	2	0	0
1875-CC BW	57	4	7	10	7	8	8	8	3	1	1	0
1875-S IW	59	2	2	16	11	4	7	12	3	2	0	0
1875-S BW	64	3	5	10	10	9	17	8	1	1	0	0
1876	122	4	9	19	17	13	30	20	3	3	1	3
1876-CC	172	20	23	33	24	11	34	13	6	5	3	0
1876-S	66	3	3	9	10	10	21	6	1	0	3	0
1877	88	3	5	20	15	8	23	5	5	1	1	2

Date	Total	G 4-7	VG 8-11	F 12-19	VF 20-29	VF 30-39	XF 40-49	AU 50-59	MS 60	MS 63	MS 65+	PF 60+
1877-CC	128	6	12	22	22	13	25	13	5	5	5	0
1877-S	85	5	7	14	12	8	19	13	5	1	1	0
1878	64	4	5	10	11	10	8	9	1	2	1	3
1878-CC	53	6	4	2	6	9	11	10	3	0	2	0
1879	45	1	4	6	2	5	7	6	3	1	1	9
1880	49	2	4	8	7	3	8	7	2	0	1	7
1881	40	2	4	2	6	3	9	6	1	1	1	5
1882	86	10	5	13	9	12	17	11	3	1	1	4
1883	106	6	5	23	11	7	29	14	5	3	0	3
1884	76	1	5	12	13	9	22	8	3	1	1	1
1884-S	71	7	6	13	11	5	17	9	0	2	1	0
1885	79	2	6	11	8	9	22	7	6	4	3	1
1885-S	42	9	8	3	8	2	5	5	1	0	1	0
1886	98	6	8	18	17	8	22	13	2	3	0	1
1886-S	48	4	5	8	5	6	10	6	2	1	1	0
1887	106	2	9	16	14	7	35	14	4	4	0	1
1887-S	111	8	5	13	15	16	37	10	4	2	1	0
1888	95	6	9	12	16	13	23	10	4	0	0	2
1888-S	81	7	9	17	11	6	16	11	4	0	0	0
1889	105	3	6	24	11	10	35	11	3	1	0	1
1889-S	76	7	9	13	9	8	16	11	0	1	2	0
1890	124	8	5	29	11	10	33	17	5	2	3	1
1890-S	91	7	7	24	10	12	15	8	2	5	1	0
1891	195	17	12	31	18	30	53	20	7	3	3	1
1891-O	139	10	6	29	20	22	28	15	2	5	2	0
1891-S	105	14	14	12	11	15	18	14	2	3	2	0

Philadelphia Dimes

The ranking of the Philadelphia dimes in Table 1 produced few surprises in the top 10 positions. The Civil War dates dominated the top ranking positions with 1867 having the least number or pieces reported. Most noticeable is a median grade of AU-55 for the 1867 due to 26% of the reported coins being proof. The 1866, 1863, 1865 and 1864 dates then follow in ranking order with few additional pieces being documented beyond the 1867 quantity. The median grade of these dates is a constant EF-40, again heavily influenced by proofs in general and by choice uncirculated pieces for the 1864 date. As a whole, the top ranking of the Civil War issues correlates well with mintages and series key date status. Of note, in the top ten positions, is the 1853 No Arrows variety. It's ranking here is a function of hoarding activity for the 1879 through 1881 dates largely by a single survey respondent. Hoarding accounted for 13%, 20% and 33% of the 1879, 1880 and 1881 dates respectively. The 1846 date rounds out the top 10 ranking positions. Both median and average grades in Fine typify its relative availability in low grade.

The 1873 No Arrows open/closed 3 pieces ranked unusually high with respect to commercial offering levels. The essentially identical reported frequencies for each variety is not in line with respective mintage but can be attributed to this date being collected as a variety pair in the one coin per *Red Book* date sets; one collector, one coin bias.

Table 1
Philadelphia Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade
1.	1867	26	AU-55	EF-43
2.	1866	28	EF-40	VF-39
3.	1863	28	EF-45	VF-39
4.	1865	31	EF-40	VF-37
5.	1864	33	EF-40	VF-38
6.	1881	40	EF-40	VF-35
7.	1853 NA	43	VF-20	VF-26
8.	1879	45	EF-40	VF-38
9.	1880	49	EF-40	VF-33
10.	1846	50	F-12	F-18
11.	1840 WD	52	VF-20	VF-22
12.	1869	52	VF-20	VF-26
13.	1873 NA C3	57	VF-30	VF-32
14.	1873 NA O3	59	VF-30	VF-28
15.	1860	60	VF-30	VF-31
16.	1844	62	F-12	F-19
17.	1862	63	VF-30	VF-28
18.	1878	64	VF-30	VF-29
19.	1868	65	VF-20	VF-26
20.	1838 SS	65	F-12	VF-21
21.	1841	69	VF-20	VF-24
22.	1855	71	VF-20	VF-23
23.	1859	71	VF-20	VF-27
24.	1872	74	VF-30	VF-29
25.	1858	74	VF-20	VF-27
26.	1870	74	EF-40	VF-33
27.	1884	76	VF-30	VF-31
28.	1848	77	VF-20	VF-22
29.	1874	77	VF-20	VF-25
30.	1885	79	EF-40	VF-34
31.	1840 ND	80	VF-30	VF-26
32.	1871	81	VF-20	VF-28
33.	1861	82	VF-30	VF-31
34.	1851	83	VF-20	VF-24
35.	1839	83	VF-20	VF-26
36.	1842	84	VF-20	VF-24
37.	1882	86	VF-30	VF-30
38.	1875	88	VF-30	VF-28
39.	1877	88	VF-30	VF-28
40.	1873 WA	90	VF-20	VF-24
41.	1847	91	F-12	VF-20
42.	1856 LD	92	VF-20	VF-23
43.	1854	94	VF-20	VF-23
44.	1849	94	VF-30	VF-28
45.	1888	95	VF-30	VF-29
46.	1852	95	VF-20	VF-23
47.	1886	98	VF-20	VF-28
48.	1850	105	VF-20	VF-24
49.	1889	105	VF-30	VF-30
50.	1883	106	EF-40	VF-31
51.	1887	106	EF-40	VF-32
52.	1856 SD	106	VF-20	VF-25
53.	1843	107	VF-20	VF-28
54.	1845	110	VF-30	VF-28
55.	1857	111	VF-20	VF-25
56.	1837	112	F-12	F-19
57.	1876	122	VF-30	VF-31
58.	1890	124	VF-30	VF-31
59.	1838	163	VF-20	VF-24
60.	1891	195	VF-30	VF-30
61.	1853 WA	206	VF-20	VF-23

A few surprises are evident. The 1878 date ranked high in 18th position. Considering its high mintage, the 1878 date would have been expected to appear more often and therefore, could be considered underrated. The significant Ahwash varieties for the 1847 date along with an elevated number of collectors reporting 4 to 6 pieces each, influenced the higher than expected frequency of 91 for this date. Both the 1856 Large and Small dates were influenced by variety collectors and hoarding. The Large date count was elevated through a 20% hoard while the Small date saw 25% of it's volume generated from variety holdings across several respondents. The 1837 date ranked near the bottom of the listing. It's dual status, as a type coin and date size variety is a realistic explanation for the high frequency count of 112 pieces along with median and average grades of Fine.

New Orleans

The New Orleans dime survey results in Table 2 presented few surprises. Any gross disparities between actual and expected results can be accounted for through hoarding or variety collecting. The New Orleans dimes feature major mintmark varieties. The 1839-O, 1840-O, 1841-O and 1850-O dates are subject to increased ownership levels due to three mintmark size variations.

As expected, the 1860-O key date ranked at the top position with a meager count of 32 coins. This reported frequency was not impacted by hoarding and verifies it's recognized rarity in the overall Seated dime series. Another difficult coin, the 1843-O captured the second ranking position. Choice Very Fine or better pieces are scarce as indicted by experience and by Fine median and average grades obtained through this survey. In general, dates in the initial nine ranking positions exhibited no hoarding activity. The 1853-O placement in the ranking may reinforce a prior suggestion that this date is underrated.

The remainder of the New Orleans dime rankings were influenced by low grade hoarding. The 1850-O, 1840-O, 1859-O, 1842-O and 1849-O totals are inflated by a 20% to 30% hoarding factor, with 5% of the total for some of these dates owned by a single respondent. The 1840-O features the lowest median grade, VG-8, of all dates discussed in Section 1 of the survey report. The 1839-O issue, a popular and highly studied date, sported a large count of 123 pieces with nearly 30% of the population generated by two large hoards.

Table 2
New Orleans Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade	Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade
1.	1860-O	32	F-12	VF-20	11.	1840-O	85	VG-8	F-18
2.	1843-O	52	F-12	F-17	12.	1859-O	96	VF-20	VF-24
3.	1858-O	58	F-12	VF-21	13.	1842-O	98	F-12	VF-20
4.	1851-O	58	VF-20	VF-23	14.	1849-O	99	F-12	VF-20
5.	1852-O	61	VF-20	VF-25	15.	1857-O	101	VF-30	VF-26
6.	1838-O	71	F-12	F-17	16.	1856-O	118	F-12	VF-20
7.	1853-O	71	VF-20	VF-20	17.	1839-O	123	VF-20	VF-21
8.	1845-O	74	F-12	F-15	18.	1841-O	139	VF-20	VF-22
9.	1854-O	77	VF-20	VF-20	19.	1891-O	139	VF-30	VF-28
10.	1850-O	84	F-12	F-17					

San Francisco Dimes

Table 3 ranks the San Francisco dimes. The low mintage dimes dominated the top ranking positions. Only a few reported examples of each date separated the top 60% of the dates in the listing. San Francisco issues are known to have seen much circulation in a western frontier setting. Notable, however, is the high tabulated median and average grades for these scarce dates. This phenomenon can be attributed to the lack of any low grade hoarding, except for the 1885-S. This date ranked lower than expected due to a 15% low grade hoard reported by a single respondent. Without this hoard, the 1885-S, a series key, would rank near the top in the San Francisco ranking table.

The 1890-S date, contrary to published discussion in the *Journal,* appears often. Numerous pieces, at grades of EF or better elevated the median grade to VF-30. *Journal* publicity concerning this date, could have influenced the collecting habits of club members.

Table 3
San Francisco Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade	Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade
1.	1856-S	34	VF-20	VF-23	16.	1886-S	48	VF-20	VF-28
2.	1861-S	35	VF-20	VF-24	17.	1860-S	49	VF-20	VF-22
3.	1866-S	35	VF-20	VF-26	18.	1864-S	49	VF-20	VF-24
4.	1870-S	37	VF-20	VF-23	19.	1873-S	53	VF-20	VF-24
5.	1872-S	38	VF-30	VF-30	20.	1869-S	55	VF-30	VF-27
6.	1859-S	39	VF-20	VF-20	21.	1875-S IW	59	VF-20	VF-28
7.	1868-S	40	VF-20	VF-21	22.	1875-S BW	64	VF-30	VF-30
8.	1862-S	41	VF-30	F-19	23.	1876-S	66	VF-30	VF-30
9.	1871-S	41	VF-20	VF-29	24.	1884-S	71	VF-20	VF-27
10.	1858-S	41	VF-20	VF-23	25.	1889-S	76	VF-20	VF-27
11.	1885-S	42	VF-20	VF-22	26.	1888-S	81	VF-20	VF-26
12.	1863-S	43	F-12	VF-22	27.	1877-S	85	VF-30	VF-30
13.	1865-S	44	VF-20	VF-24	28.	1890-S	91	VF-30	VF-26
14.	1874-S	44	VF-20	VF-24	29.	1891-S	105	VF-30	VF-27
15.	1867-S	47	VF-20	VF-25	30.	1887-S	111	VF-30	VF-30

Carson City Dimes

Table 4 summarizes the Carson City dime rankings. As expected, the early key Carson City dates dominate the rank listing. The 1874-CC has a low frequency of 24 pieces. The 1874-CC count, which is elevated by a high circulated grade hoard, is inconsistent with Breen's assertion in his *Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins* that this date is extremely rare with "possibly 6-8 known." Section 1 survey results alone indicate a justifiable designation of "Very Rare" or R-6. Considering the limited scope of the survey sampling for LSCC members only, it is even possible to estimate the actual 1874-CC surviving population at low R-5 or "Rare". It should be stated however, that despite the reported hoard and current price structure, the 1874-CC date still produced the lowest frequency listing in the general population survey.

Table 4
Carson City Mint Issues

Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade	Rank	Date	Total Number	Median Grade	Average Grade
1.	1874-CC	24	VF-20	VF-20	6.	1875-CC BW	57	VF-30	VF-28
2.	1871-CC	25	F-12	F-16	7.	1875-CC IW	92	VF-30	VF-30
3.	1873-CC	27	VF-20	VF-22	8.	1877-CC	128	VF-30	VF-29
4.	1872-CC	28	F-12	VF-21	9.	1876-CC	172	VF-30	VF-25
5.	1878-CC	53	VF-30	VF-32					

The 1878-CC issue, the last dime from the Carson City mint, exhibited a moderate population. A significant count difference between the 1875-CC In Wreath and Below Wreath varieties exists, with the In Wreath coin reported to be significantly more common.

The 1876-CC, known for numerous varieties including a doubled obverse, a doubled reverse and the Type 1 and Type 2 reverses, featured an expected high survey population. Hoarding, possibly for additional study of this date, was a factor influencing the population count. Only the Philadelphia 1853 With Arrows and the 1891 were more prevalent in survey responses.

Complete and Significant Partial Sets

The 131 survey responses reported 11 complete sets, indicating that a complete set of Seated dimes is an achievable goal. Each set was assigned a grade(+) designation based on the lowest grade coin necessary to complete a date and mintmark set. For duplicate coins of any date, the higher grade coin was considered as the coin for that date. Unfortunately, this method does have a deficiency, as one low grade coin within the set can negatively alter its ranking with respect to it's overall quality. Several of the VG+ and F+ sets featured VF and EF collecting objectives with the early Carson City coins as the most common location for lower grades. Most notable from this survey, was the response featuring an AU or better complete dime set. Only two coins, the 1859-S and the 1872-CC were reported to be AU-50 with the remainder all uncirculated, choice/gem uncirculated or proof.

Partial set data was assembled. As expected, many partial sets lack similiar key coins. The 1874-CC coin was absent in six sets with the 1866 Philadelphia piece missing in five partial sets. The 1871-CC, 1873-CC and 1867 dates then followed as being absent in four of the nine reported partial sets. Ranking by grade was tabulated through the same method utilized for complete sets.

Table 5.

Complete and Significant Partial Sets Ranking

Complete Sets

G+	VG+	F+	AU+	Total
3	3	4	1	11

Partial Sets
1 To 10 Pieces Missing

G+	VG+	F+	AU+	Total
7	2	0	0	9

Conclusion

Overall, Section 1 survey results produced few surprises. With the exception of the 1885-S, key coins dominated top positions in mint ranking tables. In conclusion, assembling a complete set of Seated dimes remains a notable goal. Availability of the 1874-CC date will continue to be a dominant factor for members attempting to complete the set.

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1840 Small letters. A solid XF with colorful rainbow toning in shades of red, gold and blue ..... $ 95

1843 Fully struck with prooflike luster under vivid old time toning. AU-58 and a very clean piece 295

1855 Arrows. AU-50. An excellent strike with lovely toning in gold, orange and sea green 240

1857-S Fully struck with very even light gray toning over clean fields. Has remains of extra 1, tip of flag and left lower serif, a full digit left of date. XF-45 425

1858-S Medium S. Almost a perfect XF except for some very light hairlines under the gray toning 175

1858-S Large S. A very flashy AU with full cartwheel luster under the light golden gray toning. Well struck and very pleasing 395

1872-CC A problem free XF with abuse free fields and rims. Light even toning ... 535

1873-CC With arrows. PCGS-55. Very well struck with good luster and light even toning. Only two graded higher, Carson City halves rarely come nicer than this 2650

1878 A very natural XF: strike wise, color wise and surface wise 95

1878 A solid AU, mostly brilliant with a touch of gold toning about the rims. Flashy cartwheel luster 200

1879 A perfect coin for its grade. Smooth fields and excellent strike enhance the appealing old time toning in pastel hues. XF 445

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Mint State Seated Dollars: Population Report Numbers Versus Conventional Wisdom

by

Arthur S. Weisel

Which is rarer in mint state, the 1845 Liberty Seated dollar or the 1854 dollar? Most Seated dollar collectors would probably say the 1854 is the rarer of the two dates. This assumption is reflected in the *Coin World Trends* prices with the 1854 in MS-60 at $6750 and the 1845 in MS-60 at $2050. Yet according to the January 1990 PCGS Population Report, eight 1854 dollars have been graded MS and NO 1845 dollars have been graded MS. Is this a statistical fluke? Only time will tell. NGC has graded four 1854 dollars MS and only one 1845 dollar MS.

Although this may be the most glaring disparity, others exist as well. Only three 1844 Seated dollars have been graded MS by PCGS. This coin is reasonably priced in *Trends* at $1900 for an MS-60. By comparison, thirteen 1863 dollars have been certified MS. This coin lists in *Trends* in MS-60 for a relatively hefty $2350, almost 25% more for a coin with a population four times larger.

Obviously, we are dealing with small numbers, and small numbers translate into low statistical significance. If there are 100 MS 1854 Seated dollars and 100 MS 1845 Seated dollars in a pot and we randomly take out and examine eight of them, there is a small probability, about 0.4%, that we will pick eight 1854 dollars and no 1845 dollars. This is the same as the probability of flipping an 1870-S dollar eight times and getting all heads or all tails! On the other hand, if we randomly take out and examine 80 coins instead of eight, the chances of these 80 representing a true ratio of the mix in the pot are very good, and the chances of getting all 1854 dollars approaches 0. Larger numbers mean better statistics.

Now 0.4% is a larger number than 0, but as a probability, it's still pretty small. In general, statistical probabilities between 5% and 1% are considered to be significant, so a 0.4% cannot be easily ignored. Keeping it simple, this means that if there are equal numbers of 1854 and 1845 dollars out there, there is less than a 1% chance that the eight submitted to PCGS would all be 1854 dollars. Does this mean that the 1845 dollar is much rarer than the 1854 in MS? It doesn't prove anything, but that is what it suggests.

Another important factor which has to be considered when looking at the numbers in the PCGS report is the size of the pot. How many Seated dollars are there in MS? Have just a few, half or most of the MS Seated dollars in existence been graded by PCGS? Most likely, most have not been. Probably somewhere between a few and half have been. If the number of Seated dollars that have been graded represent just a few of the total number in existence, then the population report numbers don't mean very much. But if they represent a third to a half, then they are much more meaningful. Again, we can only guess.

Weimar White, in his book on Liberty Seated dollars published in 1985, estimated that approximately 25 to 30 MS 1854 dollars were in existence. If we combine the eight graded by PCGS with the four graded by NGC, we have a total of 12, or almost half of the estimated total population. On the other hand, White estimated that 25 to 30 1845 dollars existed in MS. The total of one graded to date leads to a very different conclusion. My own guestimate is that a third of the population has been graded. My estimate is based on approximately 10 years of examining the series as a collector and then as a dealer. Your own guess is probably as valid as mine and may even be based on more experience.

Two factors which must be considered when examining these numbers are what I'll call the resubmission factor and the certifiability factor. The resubmission factor refers to the not uncommon practice of resubmitting the same coin with the hope of getting a higher grade the second, third or fourth time it is submitted. It is rumored that some Morgan dollars have been resubmitted as many as 10 times. If a coin is resubmitted in its plastic holder, the population numbers are not adversely affected. The grading service will subtract one from the old grade total and add one to the new grade total. However, if the coin is broken out of its holder and resubmitted raw, the population numbers are adversely affected. If this happens with an 1881-S MS-65 dollar and the population grows from 11,281 to 11,282, nobody much cares. But if an 1859-S MS-62 Seated dollar is resubmitted and the population doubles from 1 to 2, it does make a difference. In fact, only two 1859-S MS dollars have been certified by PCGS and both are MS-62. Is this coincidence or has the same coin been submitted twice? Of the eight 1854 MS dollars certified, four are graded MS-64. Four submissions, four certifications, how many coins?

The certifiability factor refers to the fact that not all MS Seated dollars are original. Since polished, damaged and artificially toned coins are not accepted by PCGS and NGC, we must differentiate between total MS Seated dollar population and the certifiable MS Seated dollar population. The certifiable population is obviously smaller, but it is not known by how much. If half the existing MS Seated dollars have been mishandled in some way during the past 150 years as to make them uncertifiable, then the MS Seated dollars which have already been graded represent a larger percentage in the certifiable pool. This would make the population report numbers twice as significant.

Only time will determine whether the current population numbers are a true representation of the relative scarcities of the different Seated dollar dates. Time will tell assuming that the trend towards certification continues, and that over the next 5 to 10 years most certifiable MS Seated dollars do become certified.

My belief is that the problem free certifiable population of Seated dollars is smaller than many realize. I believe the number of coins graded to date by PCGS and NGC represents a significant percentage, perhaps 30%, of the certifiable pool. I, therefore, believe that the relative numbers of the different dates and mintmarks graded MS so far will soon force a readjustment in the relative values of these coins as listed in *Trends* and elsewhere.

Having discussed relative scarcities of the various Seated dollars, I would now like to discuss the scarcity and relative value of the series as a whole. As of January 1990, PCGS has certified a total of only 598 MS Seated dollars. The 1859-O and 1860-O dollars account for 250 of these. By comparison, PCGS has graded 495,524 MS Morgan dollars. This is a ratio of 829 to 1. For every Seated dollar graded MS, 829 Morgans have been graded MS. For the MS-64 grade, 178, 295 Morgan dollars have been graded versus 76 Seated dollars, a ratio of 2,346 to 1. If an MS-64 Morgan dollar is valued at approximately $100, does this mean that an MS-64 Seated dollar is worth $234,600? Obviously not, as the market currently values a common date MS-64 Seated dollar at $8,000 to $10,000. Price, as we all know, is determined by both supply and demand. Although MS Seated dollars are certainly in short supply, their demand is probably limited by the fact that there aren't enough of them around to justify dealer promotion. They also appeal to a more sophisticated collector and their price puts them out of reach of many collectors who could afford to accumulate MS coins in most other series.

Liberty Seated dollars are generally acknowledged to be scarce in mint state. I believe that original, certifiable MS Seated dollars are scarcer than most people realize, that the number of MS Seated dollars already graded represents a significant portion of the certifiable pool in existence and that there will eventually be a readjustment in the accepted relative values of the different dates and mintmarks in the series to more closely reflect the population report numbers, even if they contradict the conventional wisdom.

Table 1 ranks the Seated dollar dates by price in the MS-60 grade as provided by *Coin World Trends* as of January 24, 1990. Table 2 ranks the Seated dollar dates by the number of pieces graded MS by PCGS from their January 1990 Population Report. The 1858 date was not included in these tables because it was a Proof only issue.

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1849	V-7, XF	50
1856-O	V-5, VF	45
1857	1857/857, no Valentine number, AU, cleaned	1100

DIMES

1845	1845/1845, F	$100
1856	Large Date, XF	55
1873	Proof Dies, XF	40
1886-S	Large s/Small s, XF	300
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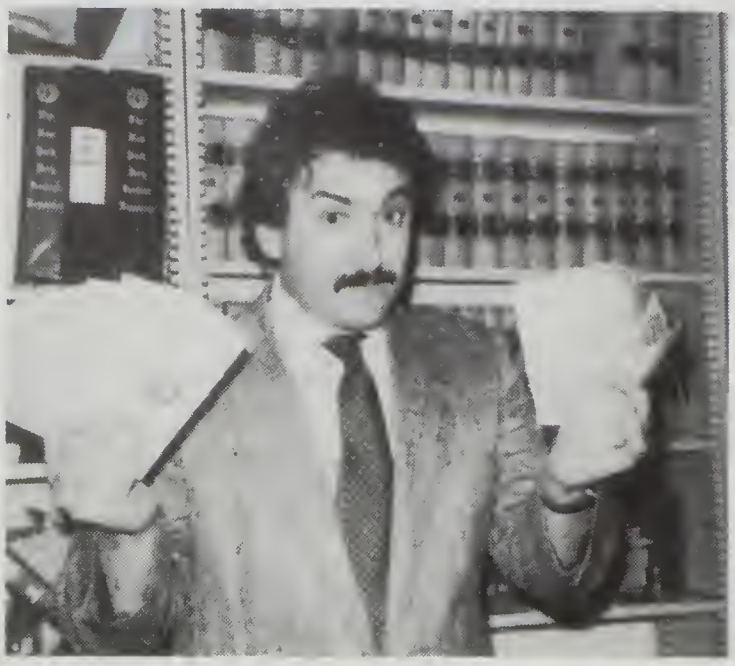
Table 1
Conventional Wisdom Relative Scarcity
Coin World Trends Prices for MS-60, January 24, 1990

Rank	Date	Price	Rank	Date	Price	Rank	Date	Price
1.	1870-S	$175,000 (AU)	16.	1862	$2,500	31.	1840	$1,550
2.	1873-CC	16,500 (AU)	17.	1863	2,350	32.	1869	1,550
3.	1871-CC	9,750 (AU)	18.	1856	2,250	33.	1870	1,550
4.	1872-CC	11,500	19.	1848	2,250	34.	1871	1,525
5.	1851	11,500	20.	1867	2,050	35.	1853	1,500
6.	1852	9,500	21.	1845	2,050	36.	1860	1,500
7.	1850-O	7,000	22.	1864	2,000	37.	1872	1,475
8.	1854	6,750	23.	1865	2,000	38.	1847	1,285
9.	1855	6,250	24.	1844	1,900	39.	1841	1,275
10.	1870-CC	6,250	25.	1857	1,900	40.	1846	1,275
11.	1850	5,750	26.	1866	1,900	41.	1842	1,250
12.	1872-S	5,650	27.	1868	1,800	42.	1843	1,250
13.	1859-S	3,750	28.	1859	1,750	43.	1859-O	1,175
14.	1861	3,250	29.	1849	1,700	44.	1860-O	1,100
15.	1846-O	3,250	30.	1873	1,650			

Table 2
Population Report Relative Scarcity
Number of Coins Graded MS by PCGS, January 1990 Population Report

Rank	Date	Number	Rank	Date	Number	Rank	Date	Number
1.	1845	0	16.	1846	5	31.	1843	11
2.	1870-S	0	17.	1859	5	32.	1847	13
3.	1871-CC	0	18.	1864	5	33.	1863	13
4.	1872-CC	0	19.	1870-CC	5	34.	1870	13
5.	1873-CC	0	20.	1840	6	35.	1842	16
6.	1850	1	21.	1862	6	36.	1853	16
7.	1850-O	1	22.	1848	7	37.	1866	16
8.	1855	1	23.	1861	7	38.	1857	17
9.	1872-S	1	24.	1868	7	39.	1860	17
10.	1852	2	25.	1849	8	40.	1872	19
11.	1859-S	2	26.	1854	8	41.	1873	20
12.	1844	3	27.	1865	8	42.	1871	49
13.	1851	3	28.	1869	9	43.	1859-O	97
14.	1846-O	4	29.	1841	10	44.	1860-O	153
15.	1856	4	30.	1867	10			



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I personally believe that when one allows himself to be motivated by the desire to make a "killing' in any market, he lays himself wide open to charlatans offering something that is literally too good to be true. Almost invariably, when common sense is drowned out by some passion of the moment, there is a great danger of waking up later with a bump on your head and your pockets turned inside out.

My personal philosophy about numismatics is that one should collect coins for their beauty, history, rarity and for the pleasure they bring. In this way, you *will* profit in many ways: from the body of knowledge gained; from the hours genuinely enjoyed; from the camaraderie of friends; and ultimately, from the slow but sure rise in value of fine collector coins.

On the other hand, if an individual buys coins knowing nothing about them, spurred on by a promoter beguiling him with visions of quick, high profits, he will likely end up muttering into his beer and writing angry letters to *Coin World* about dishonesty in numismatics.

Meanwhile, I am still buying Liberty Seated dollars with holes, plugs, scratches or any other damage. And I'm still paying collector prices.

Lawrence N. Rogak

Attorney to the Numismatic Hobby

P.O. Box 547 • Long Beach, New York 11561

Telephone (516) 764-7990

Liberty Seated Half Dollars of the Smithsonian Institution

by

Bill Bugert

1855-S Half Dollar from National Numismatic Collection

Ever wonder what Seated half dollars are in the Smithsonian Institution? In May of 1989 I was very fortunate to have the opportunity to spend two full days with the Smithsonian Institution (SI) staff in Washington, DC scrutinizing and recording notes on the National Numismatic Collection (NNC) inventory of Seated half dollars. With this article, I will share with the numismatic public a summary of the information I obtained during the visit.

The NNC contains 189 Seated half dollars as listed in the accompanying table. The grades and variety descriptions are mine. In the remarks column, I used the following terms to help describe these coins:

- Cox: Seventeen coins from Stack's 4/62 R.E. Cox, Jr. auction. These coins are still in Cox's original nicely hand lettered holders.
- Chase: Coins from the Chase Manhattan collection now in the NNC. These coins are all impaired. They have been heavily cleaned and coated with what appears to be a clear varnish imbedded with fine cloth fibers.
- US Mint collection: Coins from the US Mint collection transferred to the Smithsonian Institution.

At first glance it is readily apparent most coins are in high grade and there are many proof specimens. Most proof specimens however, have been cleaned and display hairlines. The collection is really quite impressive but, unfortunately, is missing examples of the following eleven dates: 1842-O, 1850-O, 1855, 1856-S, 1857-S, 1867-S, 1869-S, 1871-CC, 1873-CC, 1874-CC and 1878-S. Instructions for donation procedures can be obtained from the SI upon request.

The collection is very strong in early proofs. These coins are extremely rare with only a few other specimens known. Excluding the early proofs, a few of the notable dates and varieties worth mentioning include: an 1840-O small O, an 1841-O with baseball die cracks, an 1843-O with the obverse die cracked in half, an 1845/5-O, two examples of the 1845-O/horizontal O, an 1855-S pictured with this article, an 1870-CC and an 1878-CC. A particularly interesting coin is the 1871 AU corroded half from the Post Office department. This coin appears to have been in a fire and you could speculate that it could have come from a post office disaster. Does anyone know of one in 1871?

Have fun browsing through this listing. I would like to thank Dr. John W. McCloskey for my introduction to the SI staff and for facilitating my visit. Secondly, this article would not have been possible without the generous time and patience of Mrs. Cory Gillilland and Mr. Lynn Vosloh of the SI staff.

The accompanying photos are from the Smithsonian Institution, National Numismatic Collection.

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
1	1839	AU55	ND, die line off foot, reverse cracked horizontally in half	
2	1839	AU50	WD, closed 9, open claw	
3	1839	MS60	WD, open 9, lumps in reverse shield	
4	1840	PF60	small letters, no discernible diagnostics	impaired
5	1840-O	XF40	large O, 8 recut to right, rusty obverse die	bright
6	1840-O	MS65	small O, reverse cracked extensively	toned
7	1841	PF60	weak drapery, horizontal die lines in lower obverse shield	hairlined
8	1841-O	MS60	large O, trisecting reverse crack	bright, hairlined
9	1841-O	AU50	medium O, baseball cracked reverse	toned
10	1842	PF60	small date, horizontal die line above obverse shield, line above TAT	bright, hairlined
11	1842	AU58	small date, reverse cracked above D STATES plus rim through O in DOL	Cox: 1885, toned
12	1842	MS60	large date, triple date recut up	nice dark toning
13	1843	PF60	die unfinished at obverse rock ends, reverse cracked in half	impaired, bright
14	1843	MS63	obverse and reverse cracks	nice dark toning
15	1843-O	MS63	large O, obverse diagnostic crack, reverse cracked, rusty dies	cleaned, retoned
16	1843-O	XF45	large O, die line by 1st star	Chase, mishandled
17	1844	PF60	die lines in field below foot, line off lower feathers	bright, hairlined
18	1844-O	XF45	dished 8 and first 4, reverse lines above AM	blue/gold toning
19	1844-O	MS60	center dot, obverse and reverse cracks, dished 8, rusty obverse die	bright, retoning

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
20	1845	PF63	twin die marks below 1	bright, edge toning
21	1845-O	MS60	B-1A, date recut left, rusty obverse die	cleaned
22	1845-O	AU58	O over horizontal O, die lines through obverse legs	nicely toned
23	1845-O	AU55	O over horizontal O, die lines through obverse legs	Cox: 1901
24	1845-O	XF40	5 recut far left	Cox: 1899
25	1846	PF63	medium date, unfinished die between leaves, line in feathers	bright, hairlined
26	1846	AU55	tall date, crack off left of 1, reverse lines in leaves	dark toning
27	1846	VF30	tall date, cracks off left rock edge, crack above STATES	Chase, mishandled
28	1846-O	VF30	medium date, no drapery, reverse cracked and lines through shield	bright
29	1846-O	XF45	medium date, crack off 1, reverse cracked, rusty reverse die	blue/gold toning
30	1846-O	AU58+	ND, medium date, reverse cracked	Cox: 1910
31	1847	PF60+	die lines off feathers, unfinished between leaves	bright, hairlines
32	1847-O	XF45	cracked above legend, N to rim, rusty obverse die, weak foot support	
33	1847-O	G6	altered to 1817, reverse cracked above motto, D to rim	Chase, mishandled
34	1847-O	VG8	spike through foot, crack above AMER	dark toning
35	1847-O	AU58+	7 recut up, reverse cracked, rusty obverse die	bright, obverse pitted
36	1848	PF60+	dot on 1, die marks above NI, die unfinished around leaves	bright, hairlined
37	1848-O	AU55	open 4, bottom of O weak, weak drapery	toned
38	1848-O	F12	open 4, TATES doubled, crack above UNITE	cleaned
39	1849	AU50	unfinished under chin, reverse extensively cracked	bright, cleaned
40	1849	MS60	unfinished die around arrowheads and leaves	toned
41	1849-O	VF20	open 4, weak drapery, 1 recut down, reverse clashed in shield	Chase, mishandled
42	1850	AU58+	O recut horizontal mill lines across reverse	toned
43	1850	AU50	open 5, die crack through date, very rusty dies	bright
44	1851	PF60–	closed 5, 8 in denticles between 85	bright
45	1851-O	MS60+	closed 5, die crack by 10th star, reverse shield clash, rusty dies	bright
46	1852	MS65	die crack off instep, clashed dies	lightly toned
47	1852-O	VF20	weak drapery, rim ding by foot	nicely toned
48	1853	AU50	mishandled, baking soda residue	Chase, coated, toned
49	1853	VF35	die lines from wrist into field, reverse shield clashed	Chase, mishandled

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
50	1853	MS63	die crack along base of date, reverse extensively cracked	
51	1853	MS63	tine off right of top of 1	
52	1853-O	AU50	rusty dies, crack by 13th star into field, reverse rotated	light toning
53	1853-O	G6	reverse clashed, bottom of mintmark heavy	attractive toning
54	1853-O	XF45	crack by 12th star and by 1 through rock	cleaned, retoned
55	1853-O	AU50	recut date, crack from rim through E in AME to wing	Cox: 1930
56	1853-O	AU55	ND, crack through stars 9-12, crack from 12th star into field	Cox: 1931
57	1854	XF40	cracks through stars 2-12 and through base of date	
58	1854	XF45	lines above loop to right of shield tip	
59	1854	AU55	rusty dies, crack by stars 2,3,4,5,6, reverse shield clashed	Chase, mishandled
60	1854	PF60?	dies unfinished: left shield, between leaves, and arrowheads	polished
61	1854-O	AU50	horizontal die lines by left side of obverse shield, die lumps by foot	brightly cleaned
62	1855-O	XF45	rusty dies, crack in rock above 1, 'X' die lines in reverse leaves	nicely toned
63	1855-O	AU50	rusty dies, die lines from AME to rim	bright
64	1855-O	MS63	crack from 4th star to elbow, reverse die unfinished in lower shield	bright, full strike
65	1855-S	PF63+	die lines by lower arrow shaft, unfinished lower shield	bright
66	1856	PF63	closed 5, lower 6 recut, die marks in bottom of reverse shield	bright, cleaned
67	1856-O	AU55	weak foot support	brightly cleaned
68	1856-O	AU58	Counterstamped with Springfield eagle and "CH Creasey"	Cox: 2143
69	1856-O	AU50	die lines through upper berry	
70	1857	PF63	18 not connected, die lines under foot, 1856 reverse	bright
71	1857	MS63	die rust lumps on upper two arrow shafts, weak stars 10-13	nicely toned
72	1857	XF45	die lines between lower leaf and claw, crack off eagle's head	nicely toned
73	1857-O	VG8		toned
74	1857-O	AU58	18 not connected, reverse crack from E in AME to rim	Ex-Stack's
75	1858	PF63	Reverse Type 1 hub, unfinished under chin and under reverse leaves	bright, hairlines
76	1858-O	AU58	lump in skirt, 8 between 58, crack above ITED, drapery clash lines	cleaned, retoned
77	1858-O	VF20	mount removed from obverse, no drapery, crack above UNITED	Chase, coated
78	1858-O	VF25	rusty dies, crack between lower ES in STATES	bright
79	1858-S	MS60	large S, crack above RICA, light toning	Ex-Stack's

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
80	1858-S	VG10	large S	darkly toned
81	1859	MS65	Reverse Type 1 hub, die line from lower arrowhead to rim	nicely toned
82	1859	PF60+	Reverse Type 1 hub, tine off upper left of 1	bright, hairlines
83	1859-O	VG8	tine off upper left of 1	toned
84	1859-O	AU58	lump in center of both obverse and reverse	Ex-Stack's
85	1859-S	AU58	medium S, crack at lower ST in STATES, die line above TY in shield	Ex-Stack's
86	1860	PF60	Reverse Type 2 hub, die line between stem and arrow feathers	bright, hairlines
87	1860-O	MS60+	Reverse Type 2 hub, crack in rock through foot, rusty reverse die	bright
88	1860-O	XF45	Reverse Type 2 hub, 'V' die crack through date, mintmark in crotch	nicely toned
89	1860-S	MS60	Reverse Type 1 hub, medium S, die line under foot	bright, toning
90	1861	PF60+	Reverse Type 2 hub, wire rims, toning around rims	bright
91	1861	MS65	Reverse Type 2 hub, heavy die crack through TAT, reverse eagle doubled	nice dark toning
92	1861	VG8	Reverse Type 2 hub, reverse eagle doubled	Chase, coated
93	1861-O	MS63	Reverse Type 2 hub	Ex-Stack's
94	1861-O	AG3	Reverse Type 2 hub, Confederate obverse	toned
95	1861-S	MS63	Reverse Type 1 hub, large S, die lines lower berry to leaves	Ex-Stack's
96	1862	PF63	Reverse Type 2 hub, unfinished under chin, AT connected in TAT	bright
97	1862	MS63+	Reverse Type 2 hub, die line under foot, doubled eagle	nicely toned
98	1862-S	XF45	Reverse Type 1 hub, large S, weak right set of reverse vertical shield lines	Ex-Stack's
99	1862-S	AU50	Reverse Type 1 hub, large S, upper leaf connected to wing	Ex-Stack's
100	1863	PF63		bright, hairlines
101	1863-S	VG8	very weak small mintmark	toned
102	1863-S	VG10	small broken S	brightly cleaned
103	1864	PF63	lump in shield below RT, die line by eagle's eye	bright
104	1864	VF30	eagle doubled	dark toning
105	1864-S	AU58+	Reverse Type 1 hub, large S, tine on D in DOL, weak drapery	bright, lustrous
106	1864-S	G4	Reverse Type 2 hub, small broken S, no reeding, recut stars 1-7	toned
107	1865	PF60+	Unfinished around upper berry	bright
108	1865-S	VF25	Small thin S, clashed dies, reverse badly cracked	cleaned, toned

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
109	1866	PF63	with Motto, horns on second 6, die unfinished below RUS	bright, retoning
110	1866-S	G6	NM, reverse Type 2 hub, small thin S	toned
111	1866-S	XF40	NW, small thin S, clash in reverse shield	Cox: 1978
112	1867	PF63+	lump in shield to left of 2nd last set of reverse bars	bright, retoning
113	1867	AU58	crack from eagle's head to E in STATES, crack through stars 8-10	bright, lustrous
114	1867	VF25	rim ding below 86	dark toning
115	1868	PF63+	lump below foot, same reverse as 1866 proof, weak drapery	hairlined, toning
116	1868	XF45	die line on upper and lower eagle's beak	bright, cleaned
117	1868	XF45	die line on upper and lower eagle's beak	
118	1868-S	XF45	reverse crack from 2nd S in STATES through O in OF to wing	cleaned, obverse retoning
119	1868-S	AU58	very small S, crack through ICA to upper 2 arrow heads	Ex-Stack's
120	1869	PF60	triple horizontal die lines on eagle's neck, open 9	bright, hairlined
121	1869	AU55		dark toning
122	1870	PF63	2 horizontal die lines at ribbon end, same reverse as 1866 proof	bright, hairlined
123	1870	VF30	weak elbow drapery	dark toning
124	1870-CC	AU55	No drapery, right C low, nice dark toning	Cox: 1990
125	1870-S	MS63	Very small mintmark, lustrous, very nice	US Mint collection
126	1870-S	MS63	No drapery, very small S	Cox: 1988
127	1871	PF63	multiple horizontal die lines at ribbon's end, rusty reverse die	US Mint collection
128	1871	VF25	base of 1st 1 recut	brightly cleaned
129	1871	AU58	corroded, very dark, in fire ?	Post Office Dept
130	1871-S	F12	small wide S, weak foot support	US Mint collection
131	1872	VF35	die line in loop to right of shield tip, doubled ERI tops	dark toning
132	1872	PF63	lumps in TR of TRUST	US Mint collection
133	1872-CC	XF45	large CC	Cox: 1997
134	1872-S	AU50	medium small S, two chopmarks in obverse right field	Cox: 2144
135	1873	PF60	NA, lump on 7 and in drapery below elbow, lines below reverse shield tip	US Mint collection
136	1873	VF35	NA, closed 3, lump on thigh	bright
137	1873	PF60	large ARR, die lines above R in LIBERTY, same reverse as 1873 NA	US Mint collection

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
138	1873-S	XF40	large ARR, no foot support, weak drapery, very small S	Cox: 2002
139	1874	PF63	small ARR, lump on neck, same reverse die as 1873 NA and WA Proofs	US Mint collection
140	1874	AU55	large ARR, crack through TES O	
141	1874-S	AU55	medium small S	Cox: 2006
142	1875	PF58	die lines in lower reverse shield	
143	1875	PF63?	die lines off foot, horizontal die lines below reverse shield tip	Ex-Stack's
144	1875-CC	VG10	medium CC	dark toning
145	1875-S	AU55	very small S, lump on neck, filled mintmark	dark gold toning
146	1875-S	VF35	very small S, rusty obverse die	bright cleaning
147	1876	PF63	horizontal die line off right tip of ribbon, die lines below reverse shield	US Mint collection
148	1876	MS65	Reverse Type 1 hub, crack along base of date	Cox: 2014
149	1876	VF30	Reverse Type 1 hub, reverse cracked, weak drapery	
150	1876-CC	VG10	medium CC, die line at left arm pit, corroded, pitted	US Mint collection
151	1876-S	XF45	Reverse Type 1 hub, very small S, lines between arrow feathers and stem	US Mint collection
152	1876-S	AU50	Reverse Type 1 hub, very small S	Ex-Stack's
153	1877	PF63	Reverse Type 2 hub, die lines at right obverse shield above scroll end	bright, hairlined
154	1877-CC	G4	Reverse Type 2 hub, medium CC	toned
155	1877-S	XF40	Reverse Type 2 hub, very small S	US Mint collection
156	1877-S	AU55	Reverse Type 2 hub, very small S	Cox: 2021
157	1877-S	MS63+	Reverse Type 2 hub, very small S, crack through foot, reverse cracked	US Mint collection
158	1878	PF63	Reverse Type 2 hub, line across Liberty's head	US Mint collection
159	1878	VF20	Reverse Type 2 hub, die line at left of arrow feathers	dark toning
160	1878-CC	AU55	Reverse Type 2 hub, medium CC, right C low, dot above 1st 8 in rock	US Mint collection
161	1879	PF63	Reverse Type 1 hub, reverse die rusty, die lines below reverse shield tip	US Mint collection
162	1879	VF20	Reverse Type 2 hub	dark toning
163	1880	PF63	Reverse Type 2 hub, vertical die line across eagle's beak	US Mint collection
164	1880	VF25	Reverse Type 2 hub	dark toning
165	1881	PF63		US Mint collection
166	1881	XF40	weak drapery at elbow	dark toning

Listing of National Numismatic Collection, Seated Half Dollar Inventory

No.	Date	Grade	Variety Description	Remarks
167	1882	PF60	lump in field to left of base of 1	US Mint collection
168	1883	PF60+	reverse die rusty	US Mint collection
169	1883	VF30	die line in eagle's mouth	dark toning
170	1884	PF63	two die lines off foot, line through W in WE	US Mint collection
171	1884	XF40		dark toning
172	1885	AU50	line in U and dot to left of T of TRUST, weak drapery	toned
173	1885	PF63	die line above LIB, weak drapery	US Mint collection
174	1886	PF63	dual die lines off lower left of middle arrowhead	US Mint collection
175	1886	AU50		dark toning
176	1887	AU55		green toning
177	1887	PF63	double upper serifs on W in WE	US Mint collection
178	1887	XF45	lump in skirt to right of scroll end	dark toning
179	1888	PF60		toned, marks
180	1888	PF60		US Mint collection
181	1888	AU58	three lumps in loop to right of obverse shield tip	dark toning
182	1889	PF60	die lines above and below arrow feathers	US Mint collection
183	1889	AU55	recut upper loop of second 8	dark toning
184	1889	MS60+		
185	1889	MS63	Cox claimed 1889/1888, bottom of 9 connected	Cox: 2040
186	1890	PF63+	reverse die rusty	US Mint collection
187	1890	AU55+		dark toning
188	1891	PF60	die lines through GOD and to left of WE	US Mint collection
189	1891	MS65	die line below foot, double upper right serif of W in WE	dark toning

LSCC Spring Regional Meetings

LSCC will hold a regional meeting of the club at the Central States Convention that will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from April 5-8, 1990. The club meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 6, 1990. The location of the meeting will be announced in the convention program.

LSCC will hold a Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, 1990 during the Denver Extravaganza Coin Show. The show will be held at the Best Western Regency Inn at 3900 Elati St. in Denver off exit 213 on I-25. The location of the meeting will be announced at the show.

The Editor

Better Dates for Liberty Seated Collectors

DIMES

1837	Lg. Date, rim marks, VF+	$ 59
1843-O	Small o, F	75
1846	VG+, light dents	69
1848	XF++, pin scratches	59
1856-O	Choice XF++, A-2	89
1856-S	F+, nicks	120
1858-S	VF++, rough	145
1859-S	G+	55
1860-O	F, A-2, obverse scratches	425
1864	VF	450
1865	F+	445
1870-S	XF, reverse re-engraved	300
1873-CC	F, obv. & rev. repair	825

TWENTY CENT PIECES

1875	F, obverse solder	$ 49
1875-S	XF	140
1875-CC	XF	220

QUARTERS

1839	Reverse of 1839, VF+	$ 48
1841	VF+	125
1841-O	F	34
1842	F+	110
1842-O	VF, Large Date	37
1842-O	VG+, Small Date, obverse scratches	325
1843-O	Small o, VF	74
1844	XF	64
1848	VF++	120
1849	VF++	75
1850	XF+	125
1850-O	VF	69
1852	VF+	110
1853-O	Arrows, obverse & reverse scratches, AU	POR

QUARTERS

1854-O	Huge O, obverse dig, VF	$145
1855-S	XF−	215
1858	Choice AU	125
1859-S	F++	165
1860-S	VF, pin scratches	375
1861-S	VF, rough	95
1863	XF/AU	150
1864	VF+, pin scratches	115
1864-S	VF−, obverse solder	225
1865	VF+	105
1866	VG	200
1866-S	XF−/XF, obverse mark	550
1867	P/L, Choice AU	550
1869-S	F+	150
1872	AU	225
1883	F	155
1884	VF+	275

HALF DOLLARS

1842	Small Date, VF+	$ 80
1845	VF−	75
1847-O	XF+, pin scratches	79
1848	XF+	245
1850-O	AU−	175
1852-O	F+	150
1855-S	F−, obverse re-engraved	375
1862	Choice XF	190
1871	Choice XF−, rim nick	75
1871-CC	VF, obverse dig	235
1872	AU, cleaned	125
1872-CC	G/VG	69
1873	No Arrows, VG++	45
1873-CC	No Arrows, VG	125
1874-CC	G/G+	210
1891	XF−	155

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A New Variety for the 1873-S Half Dime

by

Michael Schmidt

In Issue #45 of the *Journal,* Bill Fivaz illustrated a specimen of the 1873-S half dime with a heavy die crack through the base of the date. Due to the heavy crack, it was submitted that this was a very late state of the V-1 variety, the only variety listed by Valentine for this issue.

I naturally pulled the 1873-S half dime from my set to make a die state comparison with the illustration, but no luck, I decided I must have an early die state specimen struck before the die cracked. Still something seemed wrong so I started checking the date placements of the two coins.

Date Placement

My 1873-S Half Dime	Fivaz 1873-S Half Dime
Left edge of base of 1 over center of denticle.	Left edge of base of 1 over left edge of denticle.
Left side of upright of 1 over center of denticle.	1 centered over denticle.
8 centered between 2 denticles.	8 almost centered over denticle
Left serif of 7 over center of denticle.	Left serif of 7 over left edge of denticle.
Base of 7 nearly centered over denticle.	Base of 7 centered between two denticles.
3 centered over denticle.	3 centered between two denticles.

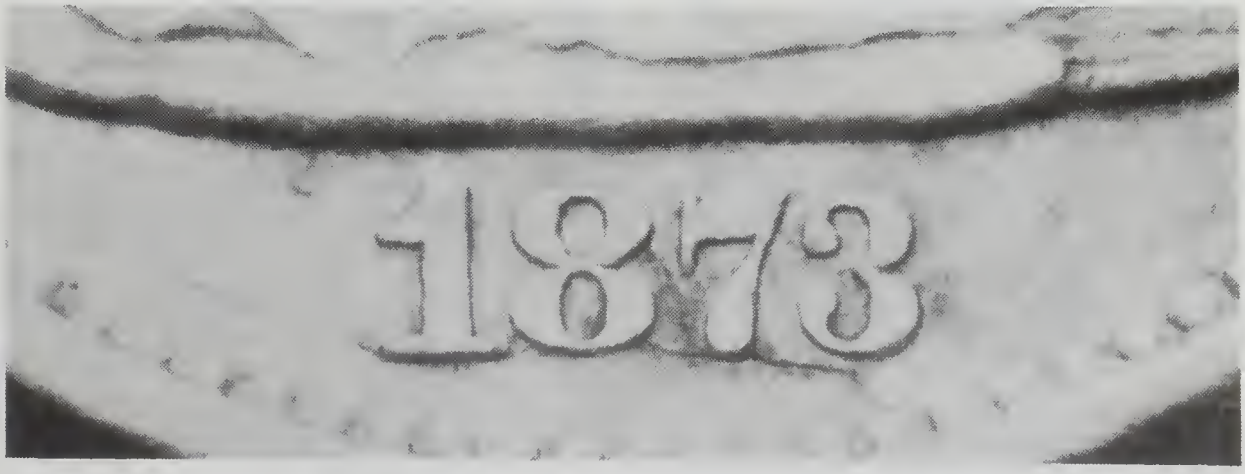
1873-S V-1 Half Dime

Further examination of the plate of the 1873-S V-1 coin in the 1975 reprint of the Valentine book, showed that its date placement matches that of my coin. Therefore, it can definitely be said that Bill's coin is not a late state of V-1, but it is an example of a variety unkown to Valentine. Bill has been informed of my findings and he concurs.

The reverse of Bill's coin is probably from a different die also. But without seeing his coin or a good photo, I can't be sure. Bill describes his coin as having a large S mintmark below the wreath and close to the bow. Unfortunately, no reference is made as to the mintmark's position relative to the denticles. My coin matches his description as stated with the further note that the S is slightly right of being centered over a denticle and the left edge of the S is over the right edge of a denticle. However Bill's coin is further noted as having both ribbon ends close to the leaf stems but they are not mentioned as touching the leaf stems. On my V-1 the right ribbon is close but clearly separated, but the left ribbon definitely touches the stem.

Walter Breen, in his Encyclopedia, reports that 4 obverse dies were sent to San Francisco in November of 1872 for use in 1873. Although he indicates a change in separation of the knobs of the 3, due to die lapping, no statement is made that he knows of more than one variety. I feel fairly sure that this is the first verification of a second variety of this date. Further study of this date is needed to identify any more varieties that might exist and their relative rarities.

The picture of the 1873-S V-1 half dime was taken by Marilyn Van Allen at Coin World.



1873-S Half Dime with Obverse Die Crack

WANTED

1841-O A-1 Dime

Large O, Closed Bud Reverse

Any Grade

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Liberty Seated Selections

HALF DIMES

1837	PCGS-55, No Stars, Lg. Date	$395
1837	XF+, No Stars	175
1838	XF-43, real nice toning	49
1840	AU, cleaned, nice detail	70
1851-O	VF+, scarce, nice toning	40
1853	Arrows, AU	80
1854	Arrows, XF, nice & original	30
1854-O	AU-58, orig., beautiful toning	195
1856	AU-50+, original & toned	85
1857	AU-55, cleaned, lustrous	75
1857	AU-59+, nice	125
1857-O	AU-53, die line on obverse	195
1858	AU-55+, sea green toning	125
1858	MS-60, planchet flaw at reverse rim	195
1858-O	XF+, nice & lustrous	39
1860	MS-64, ch., sea green toning	900
1860-O	MS-63, lustre, some toning	350
1861	XF-48	30
1863-S	XF+, scarce	105
1871	PCGS-63, choice & toned	575
1871-S	XF, re-engraved, original	45
1872-S	PCGS-58	225

DIMES

1853	Arrows, AU-59, choice	$150
1854	AU, nice & pleasing	95
1856	AU-58, lustrous, sharp strike	125
1862	MS-60+, lustrous, hairlines	160
1874	AU, lightly polished	190
1875	PF-61+, aqua & rose toning	275
1876	PCGS-63, aqua & gold toning	490
1879	MS-63+, super lustre	675
1885	PCGS-63	490
1886	PCGS-62	250
1887-S	MS-60, nice strike	100
1889-S	AU-55+, Small s	150
1890	PCGS-63, blue & gold toning	525

TWENTY CENT PIECES

1875	Fine, scarce date	$ 70
1875-CC	VG, sharp & original	42
1875-CC	PCGS-50, sharp	475
1875-S	VF-25, nice & pleasing	80
1875-S	VF-35, nearly XF	98

QUARTERS

1853	A&R, XF-40+, nice	$ 85
1853	A&R, AU+, nice	395
1857-S	XF, light old cleaning, lustrous	280
1861	MS-63+, lustrous, original toning	900
1861-S	XF+, choice	310
1866-S	XF-45+, lightly cleaned	650
1873	Arrows, AU-55/55, rev. toning	475
1877-S	XF-45, nice with lustre	24
1878-CC	XF-40, two tiny obverse dings	95

HALF DOLLARS

1839	XF-43, No Drapery	$495
1848	PCGS-62, rare date	2000
1852	AU-58, original, nice toning	1100
1853	A&R, NGC-55, brownish toning	550
1853-O	XF-45, scarce, LONG RAYS	300
1854-O	AU-55+, several die cracks	240
1855-O	AU-53, choice, lustrous	224
1855-O	AU-55, super strike, lustre	275
1855-O	AU-53+, sharp, lustrous	260
1858-O	AU-55, original, nice toning	150
1859-O	XF-45, original	85
1863	VG-10	19
1874-S	XF+, scarce date	350
1876-S	MS-60	250
1877	VG, original	19
1886	PROOF-63, lustrous	2100

DOLLARS

1840	XF-48, choice & pleasing	$475
1841	VF, ch., weak BE in LIBERTY	170
1842	AU-50, a few marks	430
1842	VF+, lightly cleaned	175
1843	AU-53, sharp & lustrous	510
1846	AU-50, scarce	450
1849	XF-48, scarce, no lustre	450
1859-O	PCGS-60, blazing white lustre	1100
1859-S	Fine, original	295
1860-O	PCGS-60, white & lustrous	1100
1860-O	MS-61+, baggy, lustrous	925
1866	AU, scarce, once dipped	700
1871	XF+, choice & original	270
1872	XF+/AU, a tiny mark, dipped	275

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The 1875-CC Quarter Revisited

by

Weimar W. White

The year of 1875 was worth remembering in western Nevada. The mining of the Comstock Lode in the Virginia City area was in full bloom due mainly to the discovery of the Big Bonanza. This extensive body of ore was found in 1873 lying deep within the Consolidated Virginia mine. This mine alone produced $105 million in precious metals which was twenty-five percent of the total Comstock wealth extracted from all of the mines.

The population in Virginia City in 1875 was about 25,000. The town supported four banks, twenty laundries, several schools, one hundred and ten saloons, more than fifty dry goods stores, a railroad, six churches and five newspapers. However, in October of 1875, seventy-five percent of the city was destroyed by fire. Amazingly, the city was mostly rebuilt within a year.

Much of the precious metal from the Comstock found its way to the Carson City Mint in 1875 resulting in the striking of 4.96 million dollars worth of gold and silver coins. Only in 1876 did the Mint produce more coinage value from the bullion received from the mines.

The Carson City twenty-cent pieces made their debut in 1875 with a mintage of 133, 290 pieces. Because of their novelty and other reasons, these pieces were saved in greater numbers than their mintage would seem to suggest. This, however, was not true for the 1875-CC quarters with a mintage of 140,000 pieces. The novelty of this denomination had all but worn off for the residents and outsiders in this area.

Eddie Randall first brought attention to the scarcity of the 1875-CC quarter in all conditions when he compared the auction appearances of this date to those of the 1878-S quarter in Issue #9 of the *Journal*. Another survey was made by John

McCloskey on the *Availability of Liberty Seated Quarters by Grade* in Issue #20 of the *Journal* from ads in *Coin World.* The twenty four issues monitored failed to produce a single 1875-CC quarter for sale! Additionally, in his quarter survey of LSCC member holdings that appeared in Issue #38 of the *Journal,* Roy Ash was able to scare up only thirty seven 1875-CC quarters and not one example in uncirculated condition! Also, in a fifteen year auction survey of all Carson City Liberty Seated mint state coins that appeared in Issue #46 of the *Journal,* the writer was able to locate only nineteen examples of this date that were sold in this lofty grade. From the survey results, on average, fewer than two mint state specimens have historically been offered for sale through auction catalogs each year.

The 1875-CC quarter is particularly rare and underrated in mint state and I would give it a solid R-6 rating in this state of preservation. Should one have the good fortune to be offered a mint state example at the 1990 Red Book price of $1,400, don't walk, but run to purchase it.

The specimen pictured in this article is described as follows: The surfaces exhibit lovely blue and purple mixtures of iridescent hues varying to lighter shades of rose and gold. It is strongly struck in the head and star areas. The example is a Variety I coin as described by John McCloskey in Issue #20 of the *Journal.* The coin was purchased by the author as an MS-60 specimen.

Highlighting Halves

We have just purchased a nice run of half dollars in the 1880's in problem free condition.

HALVES

1873	Arrows, AU-55, very sharp and choice	$490
1880	F-15	225
1882	VF-20	300
1883	EF-40	350
1885	F-12	295
1887	VF-35, dipped, but no harm done. Still we have deducted big bucks from the *Trends* price	375

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RARE DATES

HALF DIMES

1840-O	Drapery, XF	$275
1846	XF+	975
1853-O	No Arrows, XF	775
1866	BU, original	850
1867	BU	925
1868	BU	525

DIMES

1849-O	AU+, choice	$825
1860-O	F	475
1860-O	VG	350
1864	BU	1150
1865	UNC	850
1866	BU, PL	1700
1867	VF	725
1870-S	AU+	850
1872-CC	AU	3200
1873-CC	XF	5250
1874-CC	XF, expertly repaired	5500
1875-CC	BU	425
1878-CC	BU	650
1879	BU	475
1879	VF	265
1879	F	225
1880	UNC	425
1880	XF	190

QUARTERS

1840	AU	$350
1842	VF	160
1853	No Arrows, BU	3750
1854-O	MS-61	775
1866	BU	1500
1866-S	AU, PL	975
1867	BU	1800
1870-CC	VF	3400
1870-CC	F+, scratches	1450
1872-CC	VF+	1850
1872-CC	VF, corroded	800
1875-CC	AU	750

QUARTERS *continued*

1875-CC	XF	$390
1878-S	AU	375
1880	AU	275
1883	AU	275
1885	UNC	475

HALF DOLLARS

1841	XF	$165
1842-O	Small Date, AU	5250
1842-O	Small Date, XF, choice	3700
1844-O	Doubled Date, PCGS-64, finest known	25,000
1844-O	Doubled Date, F	750
1846	6 over Horizontal 6, XF+	575
1849	Doubled Date, VF+	2850
1850	BU, choice	5500
1850	F	285
1852	BU, toned	1450
1852	AU+	750
1852-O	BU, rare	3250
1852-O	XF	350
1855-S	XF	2100
1855-S	VF	1150
1857-S	XF	425
1858-S	AU	290
1858-S	XF	150
1859-S	AU	290
1859-S	XF	140
1862	AU	250
1863-S	AU	160
1870-CC	AU	7250
1871-CC	BU	4500
1873	No Arrows, Open 3, Unique Proof	45,000
1873	No Arrows, Open 3, F	3500
1873	No Arrows, Open 3, VG	2700
1873-CC	Arrows, BU	8500
1874-CC	VF	725
1878-S	Choice PL, NGC-63	57,500
1878-CC	BU	8250

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Liberty Seated Dollars

1848 AU-50 PCGS, nice strike, this coin is very pretty, toned in blues, sea greens and golds. This is a super coin for the grade $1200

1850-O AU-50 ANACS CACHE, a very nice strike for the date, this coin is mostly white and frosty. A very difficult coin in this grade $2450

1859-S AU-58 PCGS, a superb example! The obverse is semi-proof like, and the reverse is very lustrous. A very sharp strike, with some peripheral russet toning. In our last dollar survery, there were no MS examples reported. An MS-62 example was advertised last fall for $18,950. This is a much more affordable coin at $4750

1860-O AU-50 PCGS, a much prettier coin than normally seen. Nice strike with golden-orange toning. Definitely not one of the common hoard 1860-O's ..... $ 445

1868 AU-58 PCGS, this coin has a super strike, is fully proof-like, and white in color. PCGS had graded it MS-61. We believed it was undergraded and resubmitted it, where it came back AU-58. You figure it out! $1350

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Extended Vertical Lines in the Reverse Shield of Liberty Seated Quarters

by

Robert A. Izydore

Several articles have appeared in recent issues of the *Journal* describing examples of Liberty Seated coins on which vertical lines in the reverse shield have extended up into the horizontal lines.[1 2 3] To date, examples representing half dollars and dollars have been reported, but no examples representing quarters have appeared in the *Journal*. In Issue #43 of the *Journal*, John McCloskey proposed a numbering system for recording the line patterns of extended reverse shield lines on Liberty Seated coins and gave an example of the use of this system for a previously reported 1844-O half dollar.[4]

In July 1988, the writer observed a dramatic pattern of extended reverse shield lines on a newly purchased 1844 quarter and subsequently examined the Liberty Seated quarters in his collection for this characteristic with the use of a stereo microscope. The extended line patterns on the quarters that showed this phenomenon were tabulated using a modified version of the numbering system suggested earlier. The number of coins examined was limited, but the results are informative. One example each of 39 different dates was studied. Each of the coins had a grade of extremely fine or better.

Table I gives the extended reverse shield line patterns that were observed. It was generally necessary to rotate each coin under the microscope and view the reverse shield from different angles in order to see all the extended shield lines. The reverse shield on Liberty Seated quarters has six pairs of vertical lines. The line pattern for a given date consists of six pairs of numbers, with each number representing a reverse shield line, starting from the left when the shield is viewed in an upright position. The value of each number corresponds to the number of valleys through which each vertical line extends. If a vertical line extends at least half way through a valley, it is tabulated as having crossed the valley in order to avoid using fractional values. If a vertical line extends such that only a trace of it is visible in a given valley, a superscript of + is used. For example, 2^+ designates that the line crosses the first two valleys and a portion of it extends into the third valley. Except for the use of + superscripts, the method of numbering is analogous to the method previously suggested.

In addition to the data provided in the table, some further observations have been made. Several of the quarters have vertical shield lines that extend slightly below their normal position on the shield. This feature was observed on lines 1-6, 8 and 10 on the 1841 quarter; lines 3 and 4 on the 1841-O quarter; and lines 1-8 and 10 on the 1844 quarter. The first shield line of the 1847-O quarter was observed to cross the second through fifth horizontal valleys, but it was not present in the first valley. The 1841 quarter shows doubling of the first extended shield line. The line on the left crosses two valleys, and the line on the right crosses three valleys. The extended shield lines vary in their thickness. The photo of the 1844 quarter illustrates this. It would be tedious, confusing, and possibly invalid to tabulate relative line thickness. The effects of die wear and strike will tend to cause coins struck from the same die to look different.

Twelve of the quarters examined showed extended reverse shield line patterns. This number represents 31% of the dates examined! No extended shield lines were observed for the 1839, 1850, 1853, 1854, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1870, 1871, 1873, 1875, 1876-CC, 1876-S, 1877, 1877-CC, 1879, 1882, 1888-S, 1890, 1891,

and 1891-S dates. None of the quarters with dates after 1860 showed extended shield lines. Perhaps the shield lines were not engraved individually into the dies after this date. Several of these latter quarters showed possible O^+ lines, but it appeared that corrosion, contact marks, or debris were the most likely causes of the possible extensions. Of the 22 quarters minted prior to 1860, 55% showed extended shield lines, and most of these were minted prior to 1852. The line patterns observed were quite varied. Not surprisingly, most of the extended lines crossed into the first horizontal valley. The data in the table suggests that the vertical lines on the left side of the shield are the lines most likely to be extended.

It can be concluded that extended reverse shield lines are common on Liberty Seated quarters minted prior to 1860. Lines of this type can also be observed on the reverse shield of Capped Bust quarters. It is interesting to speculate as to why the vertical shield lines in particular are commonly found to be extended and not the horizontal shield lines or those found on the obverse shield. No explanation will be offered here. Readers are encouraged to report to the *Journal* their observations of line patterns that are identical to or different from those reported herein. This information will help determine whether line patterns can be reliably used to identify reverse dies as has been suggested earlier.[4]

The picture of the 1844 quarter was taken by Dr. Halbert Carmichael.

[1]Bill Fivaz, *The Gobrecht Journal,* Issue #40, page 17 (1987).

[2]Brian Greer, *The Gobrecht Journal,* Issue #41, page 28 (1988).

[3]Lawrence N. Rogak, *The Gobrecht Journal,* Issue #43, page 11 (1988).

[4]John McCloskey, *The Gobrecht Journal,* Issue #43, page 9 (1988).

Extended Reverse Shield Lines on 1844 Quarter

Table I
Liberty Seated Quarters Showing Extended Vertical Lines in Reverse Shield

Date	Reverse Shield Pattern in Line Pairs					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1838	1 ,1	1 ,0	0 ,0+	0 ,0	0+,0	0+,0
1841	3 ,1	1+,0+	3 ,1	1 ,1	1 ,2	0+,2+
1841-O	1 ,1	1 ,1	2 ,2	3 ,0	0+,2	0 ,2
1844	4 ,4+	1 ,3	4 ,4	3 ,4	3 ,2	2+,2
1845	3 ,2	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1846	2 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1847-O	5 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,3	1 ,1	0 ,0	0 ,0
1850-O	1+,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1852	1 ,2+	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1855-S	2 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1857-O	0 ,1	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0
1859-O	1 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0	0 ,0

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DIMES

1875-S	Nice AU	$ 75
1876-CC	Doubled Die Obverse, VF-30	165
1878-CC	Type 2 Reverse, ANACS XF-40	200
1878-CC	Type 1 Reverse, once dipped, rare AU-55+	475

HALVES

1871-CC	F-15, weak E in LIBERTY	$200

I will trade any of the above for 1871-S, 1872-S or 1864-S quarters in Fine or better condition. I also need quarters in the 1880's.

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1840	AU-55, PCGS, very pretty, great luster, faint golden toning, only nine graded higher by PCGS	$795
1841	AU-50, PCGS, brilliant and well struck, a better date	550
1842	AU-58, PCGS, proof-like surfaces, an MS-63 with light rubbing	725
1843	EF-40, PCGS, pretty original toning, nice eye appeal	350
1843	EF-45, NGC, attractive original toning, much luster	385
1846	AU-50, PCGS, light iridescent toning, clean fields	540
1846-O	EF-40, PCGS, an underrated date, only nine graded by PCGS in all grades combined, lightly toned and lustrous	525
1847	EF-45, PCGS, nice detail, pretty iridescent toning	385
1847	AU-50, PCGS, original toning, golden highlights, clean fields	495
1847	AU-55, PCGS, very attractive, light toning, lustrous	625
1850-O	AU-50, PCGS, very scarce and very attractive, a great combination, only one graded higher by PCGS	3100
1859-O	AU-50, PCGS, pretty light toning, sharp strike	475
1860-O	EF-45, PCGS, well struck, pretty iridescent toning	375
1860-O	AU-50, PCGS, light toning, clean fields	475
1860-O	AU-58, PCGS, brilliant, sharply struck, minimal wear	575
1862	AU-55, lightly retoned over old cleaning, well struck, nice surfaces	950
1862	AU-50, ANACS CACHE, very pretty example of this scarce date, nice peripheral golden and blue highlights	1125
1866	AU-55, PCGS, brilliant, flashy luster, minimal wear	1100
1866	AU-58, PCGS, brilliant, lustrous, clean surfaces	1350
1871	AU-50, PCGS, brilliant original surfaces, well struck	515
1871	MS-61, PCGS, very nice, lightly toned	1950
1871	MS-61, NGC, proof like surfaces, light golden toning	2000
1871	MS-63, NGC, very attractive bluish and golden highlights, great strike, excellent fields, very few graded higher	4950
1872	AU-50, PCGS, nice gray and gold toning, lustrous	525
1872	MS-61, PCGS, brilliant, satiny surfaces	2000
1872	PF-62, PCGS, lightly toned, exceptional mirror like surfaces	1750
1873	MS-62, PCGS, beautiful golden, russet and blue highlights	2750

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Historical Facts for 1873

by

Harry X Boosel

I enjoyed Lawrence Rogak's historical saga about the circulation life of Liberty Seated coinage that appeared in Issue #46 of the *Journal* but I must take issue with a few of the statements that he makes. On page 12 of that issue he states that the law of 1873 took effect on 12 February 1873. This is incorrect. The Coinage Act of 1873 was *signed* by President Grant on 12 February 1873 but was not *effective* until 1 April 1873. Later on this page he states that San Francisco officials had only six weeks in 1873 during which no arrows silver coins of the old weight could have been minted and issued. This is not true, the mint had three months or 13 weeks to strike and issue coins of the old weight.

Let us look at what the Carson City mint did during these 13 weeks in 1873:

Date	Quantity	Denomination
JAN 18	1,000	Silver Dollars
JAN 18	22,000	No Arrows Half Dollars
JAN 18	4,000	No Arrows Quarter Dollars
MAR 3	1,300	Silver Dollars
MAR 3	40,000	No Arrows Half Dollars
MAR 3	12,400	No Arrows Dimes
MAR 12	16,000	No Arrows Half Dollars
MAR 27	30,000	No Arrows Half Dollars
MAR 31	14,500	No Arrows Half Dollars

Note that the Carson City mint struck No Arrows half dollars on March 31st, the last day that they could do so under the law. These coins could not be issued as of the next day because they no longer conformed to the weight of the half dollar specified by the Coinage Act of 1873.

The No Arrows silver coins on hand as of April 1st 1873, but coined before that date, could not be issued contrary to the law nor could they be melted without permission from Washington. I have a copy of a letter that Linderman, Director of the Mint in Washington, sent to Pollock, Superintendent of the Mint in Philadelphia, on May 24, 1873. This letter reads as follows:

Sir:

The subject of the proper disposition of the silver coins of the old standard now in the treasury and its offices, is under consideration.

I will thank you to inform me what amount of these coins are on hand at your institution and consisting a part of the Bullion Fund.

It can be presumed that the same letter was sent to officials in San Francisco and Carson City. Here is another letter dated June 3, 1873 sent from Linderman to Pollock:

Sir:

You are authorized to recoin the silver coin of the old standard on hand at your mint and constituting a part of the "Bullion Fund" and charge the difference arising from the conversion of the coins of the former standard, into those of the standard as prescribed in the Coinage Act of 1873, to the "Silver Profit Fund."

If the coins consist of silver dollars of the old issue to a sufficient extent to give a profit in the recoinage, the difference will in a like manner be credited to the "Silver Profit Fund."

One final note on the melting of silver dollars and the striking of Trade dollars. They stopped making silver dollars as of March 31, 1873 and the very first Trade dollar was minted at Philadelphia on July 11, 1873.

When you see '73, think of me.

An 1856-S Liberty Seated Dime

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Seated Dollars

1846-O	F	$150	1864	PR-62/64	$2500
1846-O	VF	225	1870	Proof-55+	650
1849	AU	450	1870-CC	G+	175
1859-S	VF, ANACS-20/20, cleaned	350	1870-CC	XF	595
1859-S	Choice VF	395	1871	VG+/F	75
1860-O	F	95	1871	VF	140
1860-O	AU	395	1871	XF+	240
			1872-S	Choice VF, ANACS-30/30	495

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A New Variety of the 1876 Quarter

by

Christopher F. Pilliod

Recently, I visited J. T. Stanton, president of CONECA and a fellow variety specialist, and he passed along to me a nice Seated quarter variety for a regular trends price. It was an 1876/6 recut date specimen. I did not recall this variety being listed in the *Journal* and a subsequent search through the collective volumes revealed nothing on the variety.

The recutting is very intriguing. The recut 6 is evident only at the top of the digit, nestled between the 7 and 6 as shown in the picture. Even though the picture seems to show recutting inside the 8, this is actually only a scratch.

Considering the large quantity of quarters minted at Philadelphia in 1876 and the subsequent number of dies needed, this variety may be difficult to locate. I would be interested if any other member has seen this variety. Correspondences can be addressed to me as follows: Christopher F. Pilliod, P.O. Box 82, Maumee, Ohio 43537.

1876/6 Quarter

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QUARTERS

1841-O	F+, Breen #3946	$ 31
1841-O	AU+, light edge toning, Breen #3946	240
1844	AU, original, Breen #3954	110
1845	1845/45, XF+, Breen #3961	75
1846/6	Dropped 6, Choice AU++, Breen #3966. Much earlier die state than Breen's picture. Entire first 6 shows in and below second 6. No die crack through date	250
1847	AU+, Breen #3969	110
1847-O	AU, Breen #3972, light edge toning, nice coin	275
1848	1848/48, AU, Breen #3974	250
1849	AU++, Breen #3976	255
1850	XF+++, Breen #3978	165
1852	XF, Breen #3985	135
1855	XF+, Breen #4003	60
1856	AU+, obverse die breaks, Breen #4006	70
1857	F+, choice original coin	16
1858	AU, Breen #4015	70
1858	Choice original XF+	36
1859-O	XF++, Breen #4022	85
1860-O	XF, Breen #4026	65
1862	AU++, choice original, Breen #4032	155
1863	AU, light scratches in obverse field, Breen #4034	140
1864	XF+, Breen #4037	170
1865	PF-58, Breen #4039	275
1866-S	VG++, full LIBERTY, original	200
1868-S	VF+, Breen #4051, nice coin	145
1869	VF, Breen #4052	275
1870	PF-59/60, Breen #4054	300
1871	XF+++, choice original, Breen #4056	180
1872	AU, Breen #4060	200
1873	No Arrows, AU+++, choice original, Breen #4064	180
1873	With Arrows, XF+, old cleaning, retoned, Breen #4066	150
1874	XF++, Breen #4070	150
1879	XF+, Breen #4105	225
1881	AU, Breen #4108	350
1882	PF-60, slide marks in right obverse field, Breen #4109	325
1884	AU-59+++++	455
1886	PF-60, Breen #4113	520
1888-S	XF, Breen #4117	43
1891	XF+++, P/L edge toning, Breen #4120	55

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An 1840-O Half Dime with the 1839-O Large O Reverse

by

Brian Greer

During the 1987 ANA Convention I purchased a nice XF 1840-O No Drapery half dime with a Large O mintmark. I asked several other Liberty Seated collectors about the scarcity of this variety but was unable to obtain a definitive answer. Still curious, I decided to seek additional examples of this variety and over the next 24 months was able to locate three additional pieces in various grades. The final piece that I purchased further raised my interest as it possessed a bisecting reverse die crack not visible on any of the other specimens. This crack begins at the rim and crosses through the O in OF, curves down through the right side of the mintmark and then runs down to the rim below the bow. Furthermore, there is a rough raised patch of metal just below the right side of the bow. Both of these characteristics are difficult to see without magnification and are not significant except for the fact that they also appear on the very rare 1839-O Large O half dime. We thus, have evidence to indicate that the Large O reverse used on the 1839-O half dime was later used to strike the 1840-O half dime.

Further study of my 1840-O half dimes showed that all four coins were struck from the same obverse die with a high date and a boldly repunched 9th star. Still later, John McCloskey and I were able to locate minute diagnostic differences on my 1840-O Large O half dime which distinguished the reverse dies with and without the bisecting reverse crack.

As a variety I have found the 1840-O Large O half dime to be scarce, but I have seen enough examples with and without the reverse die crack to determine that both varieties are available to the interested specialist. The 1839-O Large O half dime however, has long been known to be a rarity.

I have always found the search for transitional and muled die varieties to be very interesting work. The rewards are even more enjoyable however, when one of the dies involved was used to strike a known rarity.

1840-O Half Dime with Reverse Die Crack

HALF DIMES

1837	No Stars, Good	$ 30
1837	No Stars, VF	95

TWENTY CENT PIECES

1875-S	AU	$375

HALF DOLLARS

1853	VF	$ 85
1856-O	XF-40	85
1877-S	AG	8

SEATED DOLLARS

1870	VF	$285
1871	XF	325
1871	AU	550
1873	Fine plus	250

TRADE DOLLARS

1874-S	XF-45	$185
1875-S	XF plus	180
1876-S	XF	175
1877	XF	155

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1837	VG-8, Breen #3008, a better variety	$ 29
1839	AU-50, V-1, lightly cleaned	79
1842	XF-40, V-3, steel gray with blue & brown peripheral toning	45
1855	NGC-58, V-4, sharply struck blazer	119
1858	PCGS-50, V-1, light pink hue	93
1870	MS-60, V-1, lightly cleaned, looks like cameo proof	80
1871	PCGS-55, V-4	75
1873-S	PCGS-62, V-1, above average for grade	269

DIMES

1839	Fine, LIBERTY a little weak	$ 7
1845	XF-45, golden brown with a touch of blue at the rims	40
1849	VF-30+, nice and original	25
1855	XF-40, strong strike, golden with some blue & black across Liberty	45
1868	Fine, a better date	17
1874	XF-45, softly struck reverse, blue, black & sea green devices	95
1875	VF-30+, mottled brown, a touch of blue near date	13
1885	VF-20	8
1887	AU-55, golden obverse, reverse cleaned, small reverse dig	34
1888	NGC-60, Breen #3440, heavy date, repunched 8, brilliant	200
1891	NGC-63, golden gray with splotchy brown, blue, green & black	429

TWENTY CENT PIECES

1875	F-VF, porous surfaces	$ 70
1875-CC	F-VF, light violet, splashes of black on obverse	90

QUARTERS

1844	XF-45, golden brown, darker devices, steel gray reverse	$ 95
1856	XF-45, semi-prooflike fields with light mottled black toning	52
1856	VF-20, golden brown, no problems	25
1856-O	Fine-12	17
1858	VF-30, golden gray, a few pin pricks on thigh	28
1859	F-VF, problem free	17
1861	VG-F, problem free	11
1873	XF-40, red & gold around devices	175
1876-S	ANACS-50, steel & pink, a touch of blue in stars	100
1891-S	XF-40, steel gray with mottled black & gold in fields	47

HALF DOLLARS

1841-O	XF-40, four minor rim dings, mottled black fields	$ 55
1846-O	Small Date, F-12, drapery barely visible	35
1854-O	G-4, Breen #4852, doubled date, die break through 4	20
1854-O	F-12, Breen #4851, doubled date, deep brown, gold & black	45
1857	Fine, black & violet toning, possibly cleaned long ago	30
1858-O	No Drapery, AU-50, Breen #4883, splashes of reds, golds & greens	165
1875	AU-50, hazy pink & gold toning, attractive	140

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BETTER DATES #19

I have too many coins and not enough time to set prices. This time I have decided to try a **Mail Bid Sale.** Sale closes 14 days after the release of the *Journal.* Winners will be notified within 5 days. Usual grading and return rules apply. Other dates available. Telephone descriptions gladly given. Good luck!

Lot No.	Date, Description
	HALF DIMES
1.	1846, F
2.	1853-O, NA, filler
3.	1856-O, XF-AU
	DIMES
4.	1838-O, F-VF
5.	1838-O, XF
6.	1840-O, ND, Med O, VF
7.	1840-O, ND, Lg O, VF
8.	1840, Drapery, F
9.	1845, XF
10.	1845-O, VF-XF
11.	1846, weak F
12.	1849, XF
13.	1851-O, F
14.	1852-O, VF
15.	1853, NA, XF
16.	1856, SD, AU
17.	1856-O, XF
18.	1859-S, F, porous
19.	1859-O, XF
20.	1860, XF
21.	1860-O, AG-G
22.	1860-S, XF
23.	1861, Obv. '60, AU
24.	1861-S, VF, scratches
25.	1862-S, F
26.	1863-S, bent, AG
27.	1865-S, VF, weak head
28.	1868, F
29.	1869, VF
30.	1871-CC, AG-G
31.	1871-S, AU, marks
32.	1874-S, VF-XF
33.	1875-CC, IW, Choice XF
34.	1886-S, VF-XF
35.	1886-S, Choice XF
36.	1889, Choice XF

Lot No.	Date, Description
	QUARTERS
37.	1841-O, F
38.	1842-O, LD, F-VF
39.	1843, VF
40.	1843-O, Lg. O, VF, marks
41.	1845, Choice AU, cleaned
42.	1845/45, F-VF
43.	1846, VF
44.	1852-O, AG-G
45.	1853-O, Choice XF cleaned
46.	1855-O, XF-AU
47.	1859-O, AU, dipped
48.	1860-S, F
49.	1860-S, VF, polished
50.	1860-S, XF, cleaned
51.	1864, XF
52.	1864-S, weak G, rough
53.	1864-S, Choice VF, hairlines
54.	1867-S, AG-G
55.	1869, VG-F
56.	1873-S, Choice XF
57.	1874, F
58.	1875-S, XF-AU, Rev. '68-S
59.	1878-S, XF
60.	1879, G/AG
61.	1880, XF
62.	1883, VG/AG
63.	1890, VF-XF
64.	1891-O, VF, scratches
	HALVES
65.	1840, Rev. '38, weak VG
66.	1841-O, Choice AU, cleaned
67.	1842, MD, AU
68.	1842, MD, AU, recut date
69.	1843, Choice XF
70.	1844-O, Choice XF
71.	1845-O, ND, AU, toned
72.	1857-O, XF-AU

Lot No.	Date, Description
	HALVES *continued*
73.	1857-S, VF
74.	1859-S, XF-AU, cleaned
75.	1861, Choice AU, cleaned
76.	1862, XF, cleaned
77.	1862, Choice AU, cleaned
78.	1862-S, XF, Small s
79.	1865, Choice XF
80.	1866, XF, toned
81.	1867, XF cleaned
82.	1868, VF
83.	1869, XF
84.	1869-S, Choice AU
85.	1870-CC, AG-G
86.	1872-S, XF
87.	1873, NA, PCGS-45
88.	1873-S, VF-XF
89.	1873-S, XF-AU
90.	1874-CC, VF
91.	1874-CC, Choice VF
92.	1874-S, XF
93.	1875-CC, VF
94.	1875-CC, Choice AU
95.	1876-CC, XF
96.	1876-CC, AU
97.	1876-CC, slider UNC
98.	1877-CC, VF
99.	1878, AU, cleaned
100.	1878-CC, VG+
101.	1881, G, solder damage
102.	1889, AG-G
103.	1889, VF
104.	1890, VG+
105.	1891, XF-AU, cleaned
	TRADE DOLLARS
106.	1874-CC, AU, dipped
107.	1875-CC, AU
108.	1876-CC, Choice XF, toned
109.	1877-CC, filler, chops

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An Earlier Die State of the 1844 Repunched Date Half Dime

by

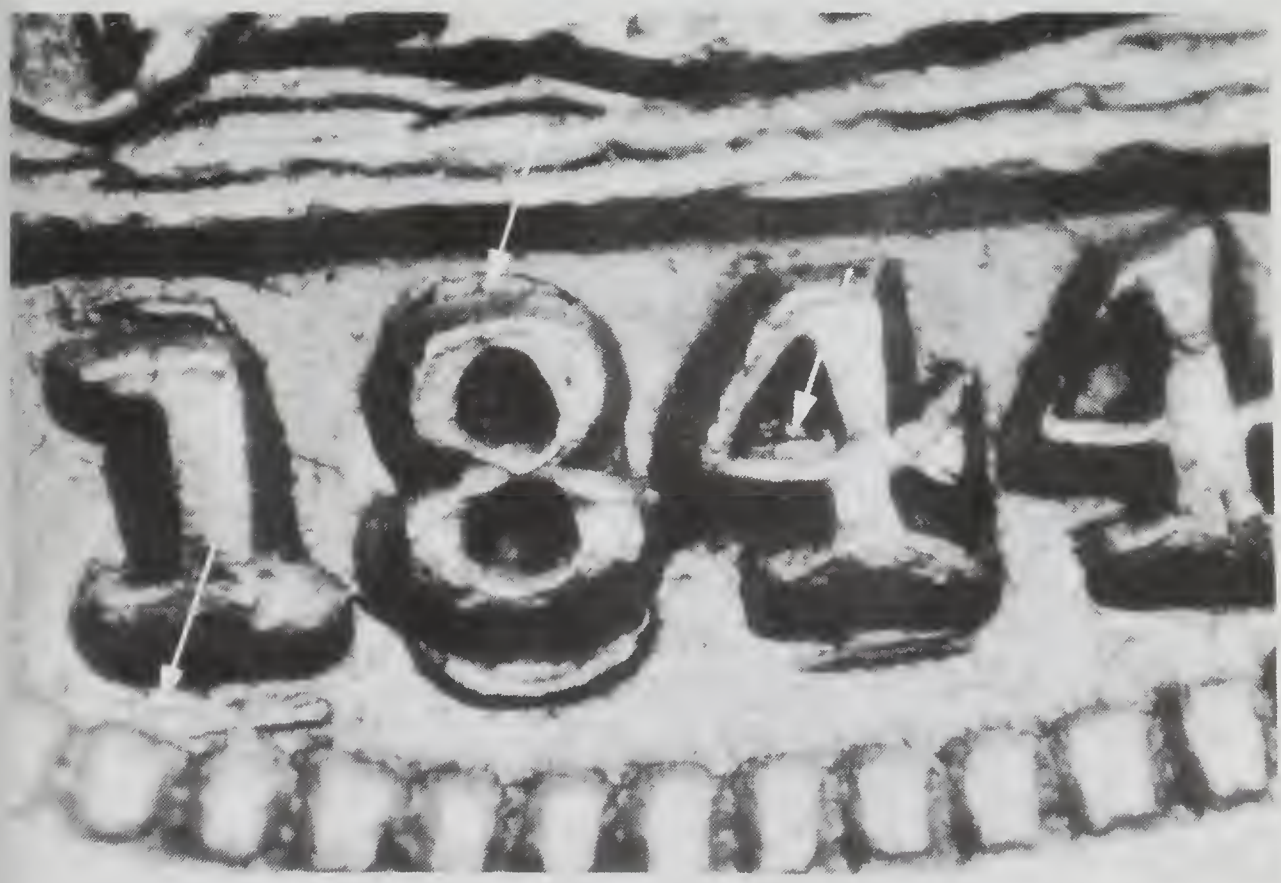
Bill Fivaz

Al Blythe wrote a very interesting article in Issue #32 of the *Journal* on the 1844 V-3 half dime with the repunched date. In that article, Al illustrated an early die state of the variety first described by Valentine which showed the right side of a third 1 to the south of the original 1 in the date and the top of a third 8 over the original 8 in the date. Al properly described his coin as an 1844/184/18 with the 18 triple punched.

I was recently fortunate enough to purchase an even earlier die state specimen of this variety, with stronger doubling on the 184 and evidence of even further repunching on those first three digits. This coin is a nice Extremely Fine specimen.

On the newly discovered piece, there is a trace of the base of a fourth 1 between the 1 that Al called to our attention and the base of the 1 in the date. There is also the top arc of a fourth 8 between the upper doubling and the top of the 8 in the date. Finally, there is a crossbar of a third 4 that shows within the opening of the first 4 in the date. I have identified all three of these areas on the coin with an arrow on the picture of this specimen.

Based on this earlier die state, technically this variety should be described as an 1844/184/184/18, with the 18 quadruple punched and the first 4 triple punched. The final 4 may have been repunched a number of times but always with a perfect overlay on that digit so that no doubling is visible. It is also possible that doubling on the final digit may have been polished off the die before it was used to strike coins.



1844 Half Dime with Multiple Date Punches

HALF DOLLARS

1844-O	XF	$ 65
1853	Arrows & Rays, XF	75
1854-O	BU	500
1855-O	AU	125
1855-S	F-15	600
1856-O	XF	60
1856-S	VG	40
1859-O	XF	60
1870-CC	VG	600

DOLLARS

1840	F	$200
1840	XF, minor rim bump	395
1840	XF/AU	475
1842	XF	250
1843	XF, rim nicks	145
1843	XF, nice original	260
1843	XF	190
1844	XF, original	400
1844	XF-45, original	650
1844	UNC	1200
1845	XF+, dark original	540
1846	VF	160
1846-O	VG+	120
1846-O	XF, reverse rim bump	320
1847	F	115
1847	XF+, original	350
1848	VF+	425
1849	XF	310
1849	AU, original	430
1850	XF	1000
1850-O	AG	100
1850-O	F	300
1850-O	VG, scratches	80
1850-O	VF-30/30	450
1851	Proof	16,500
1856	XF, full strike	675
1856	UNC, weak strike	1100
1858	Proof-55	6200
1859	VF+	375
1859	XF, nice luster	650

DOLLARS *continued*

1859-S	G+, scratches	$135
1859-S	XF, original	650
1859-O	VG	75
1860	XF+	625
1860-O	VF, very nice original	140
1860-O	XF	175
1860-O	XF, nice luster, dark	265
1860-O	XF, bright luster	275
1864	VF, obverse mark	175
1864	G/VG	135
1865	XF, reverse rim dings	250
1868	XF	330
1868	XF-45/45, full strike	450
1868	UNC	1000
1869	Proof	1150
1870	VF+	150
1870	XF, luster	250
1870	XF, dark original	265
1870	XF+, PL	310
1870-CC	XF+	900
1871	VF+	140
1871	VF	130
1871	XF+, luster, original	225
1871-CC	F	2600
1872	XF, dark, nice	175
1872	XF, mark	165
1872	VF, original	135
1872-S	F+	295
1872-CC	VF	1200
1872-CC	F, minor rim bump	950
1873	XF+, original	335
1873	F, rim bumps	80

TRADE DOLLARS

1874-CC	UNC, rubber band mark on reverse	$410
1874-S	VF	75
1875-CC	UNC, obverse carbon spot	310
1875-CC	XF, minor reverse rim bump	165
1876	Proof	700
1877	VF, scratch & rev. chop mark	30
1877-S	AU-55	275
1877-S	Borderline UNC, dark	325

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An 1876-CC Dime with Extra Date Punches in Gown

by

Louis R. Stubler

I have been a coin collector for about 35 years and have been interested in metal detecting as a sideline hobby for the last three years. You find a lot of worthless junk while metal detecting so it is always a thrill when an old coin is found, especially an old silver coin. It was therefore, quite a thrill for me last May when I found an 1876-CC dime while detecting, buried about five inches deep in the ground.

When I got home I looked at the coin more carefully and found that it had a blundered date. The 1876 in the date looks okay but there are extra date punches in the gown. Over the right side of the 8 in the date you can see what appears to be the base of a 6 or an 8 stamped twice in to the gown just to the right of the scroll that contains the word LIBERTY. I looked through the Ahwash Encyclopedia on Liberty Seated dime varieties and could not find one that looked like this.

This coin has the Type I reverse with the split left ribbon end. There is also a die crack on the reverse that goes from the bottom rim to the bottom of the left ribbon, through the ribbon to the top of the CC mintmark and on to the right ribbon. I would be interested to know if other members have a similar piece and would hope that further information on this variety could be published in a future issue of the *Journal*.

1876-CC Dime with Extra Date Punches in Gown

The Problem:

Liberty Seated Coins Ruined By Damage

The Solution:

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Some coins in the Liberty Seated series are so rare and difficult to locate in unimpaired condition that often a "problem" coin or "filler" may be the only coin available to fill a space in your collection. One frequently must settle for a coin which has been harshly cleaned, scratched, mutilated, bent, or even holed, until one's budget and hunting luck pay off with the acquisition of a nice original specimen.

As long as you must settle for an impaired coin, why not at least have it restored to the appearance of an original example? Scratches can be removed, initials can be made to disappear, even holes can be filled, and obliterated details can be re-engraved so finely as to bring the coin back to the way it looked before the damage was inflicted.

This kind of work does not in any way involve putting something onto the coin that was not there before it was damaged. Details lost through normal wear will not be re-engraved. Coins with missing dates or mint-marks will not be accepted for restoration.

Every kind of antique and collectible is considered completely acceptable when restored; anyone who collects old cars, paintings, silverware or a number of other antiquities knows this. Coin restoration is every bit as logical and desirable as any other restoration.

The cost for my services is most reasonable. Please favor me with the opportunity to examine any coins you wish restored, and I will respond with a free estimate.

Ray Brown

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An 1839 No Drapery Half Dollar with Reverse Die Crack

by

Byron E. Powell

Shown with this article are two pictures of an 1839 Liberty Seated half dollar without drapery. I would like to call attention to the reverse of this coin showing a major die crack beginning between the R and I in AMERICA. This crack extends through the right wing and shield and then runs under the left leg, through the leaves and exits at the 7 o'clock position on the coin. I have looked through back issues of the *Journal* and have never seen any reference to this variety. This reverse crack is not mentioned in Walter Breen's *Encyclopedia* and the variety is not listed in the Beistle book on half dollar die varieties.

Since acquiring this coin in 1987, I have looked at 1839 half dollars at many coin shows. I have never been able to find a similar coin showing this reverse die crack. This leads me to believe that this variety could be quite rare. Does anyone have a similar specimen or additional information about this variety? I would hope that such information could be provided and published in a future issue of the *Journal*.

HALF DIMES

1845	1845/1845, VF-30	$ 48
1849-O	Scarce, F-15	48
1868	Light scratches, VF-30	85

DIMES

1838	Small Stars, A-1, AU-50	$365
1838-O	No Stars, A-2, VF-25	185
1838-O	No Stars, A-1, VF-30	230
1839-O	Large O/O, A-3, XF-40	85
1839-O	Small o, A-1, AU-55	195
1839-O	Reverse of 1838, A-7, XF-40	645
1840	WD, A-1, F-12	52
1840	WD, A-1, VF-20	115
1840-O	ND, A-2, VF-20	52
1841-O	Small o, A-4, VF-25	40
1841-O	Small o, A-4, VF-35	58
1842-O	Small o, A-4, VF-20	125
1842-O	Medium O, A-1a, XF-40	185
1843	1843/1843, A-2, VF-35	125
1845	1845/1845, A-2, VF-30	85
1845	1845/1845, A-2, XF-45	175
1845-O	F-12	32
1849	A-1, scarce, XF-35	35
1850	A-3, VF-20	20
1850-O	Small o, A-4, rare, VF-30	135
1851-O	Large O, A-1, XF-40	125
1856-O	1856/1856, A-3, F-15	38
1858-S	Scarce, VF-35	195
1860-S	A-2, VF-20	60
1860-S	A-1, VF-30	75
1860-S	A-2, XF-40+	145
1863-S	VF-30	55
1863-S	AU-50	170
1864-S	VF-30	60
1864-S	XF-40	85
1865-S	VF-30	65
1867-S	VF-25	60
1868-S	VF-30	48
1869-S	F-15	14
1869-S	VF-20	24
1876-CC	Doubled die obverse, VG-10	38
1876-CC	Doubled die obverse, VF-30	145
1890	XF-40	18

QUARTERS

1855-S	VF-20, scarce	$ 85
1856-S	VF-10, scarce	38
1858-S	VF-25, scarce	145

HALVES

1839	No Drapery, XF-40	$385
1841-O	VF-20	48
1842	Medium Date, F-15	35
1843-O	VF-25	48
1845	VG-10, scarce	32
1845	F-15, scarce	48
1846	Tall Date, VF-35+	65
1846	1846/1846, VF-35, scarce	65
1846-O	XF-40, light obverse scratch	65
1848	VG-10, scarce	40
1848	VF-20, scarce	95
1848	XF-40+, very scarce	220
1848-O	F-12	24
1853-O	Arrows & Rays, VF-30	140
1855	1855/1854, VF-35/30	260
1856-S	VG-10/15	55
1858	Type II reverse, VF-25	48
1858	Type II reverse, VF-35	65
1858	Type II reverse, XF-45+	120
1859-S	VG-10	24
1859-S	XF-40, scarce	170
1861-S	VF-35, cleaned	45
1864-S	VF-20/30	48
1866-S	With Motto, VF-25/30	55
1868-S	XF-45	120
1870-S	VF-30	48
1871-CC	G6/VG10, scarce	120
1871-CC	VG10/F15, scarce	180
1872-S	VF-20, scarce	85
1872-CC	G6/VG10	48
1872-CC	VG10/F12	70
1878-CC	VG10/VF25, rare	285
1891	G-6	38
1891	VF-25	90

DOLLARS

1846-O	VG8/VF20	$145
1868	VG10/VF25	160
1871	G6/F15	75

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Off Center 1887-S Dimes

Shown below is an off center 1887-S dime sent in by Ron Feuer that I have identified as an 1887-S A-2 specimen from the Ahwash Encyclopedia. I compared these pictures with my own example of this error and at first glance they appear to be identical error specimens. The coins are off center by the same amount and off center in the same direction. It would be easy to conclude that the pieces were the result of the same malfunction and produced at the same time.

Upon closer examination however, I made a startling discovery. The coins were not struck from the same pair of dies and are *different* varieties. I have identified my coin as an 1887-S A-1 specimen from the Ahwash Encyclopedia. The obverses of these two coins are clearly different as noted by the position of the obverse shield relative to the digit 1 in the date. The A-2 specimen has the tip of the upper serif of the 1 under the 6th stripe in the obverse shield while the A-1 specimen has the upper serif of the 1 under the 8th stripe in the obverse shield.

The two error coins are nearly identical in terms of the amount and direction that they are off center. Yet they clearly were not struck at the same time. Whatever problem the mint was having seems to have been a continuing source of difficulty. Does anyone else have an off center 1887-S dime? If so, how does it compare with the two specimens presented with this article? Any responses received as a result of this inquiry will be printed in a future issue of the *Journal*.

The Editor

Off Center 1887-S A-2 Dime

Off Center 1887-S A-1 Dime

Letters to the Editor

Recently, I was reviewing all of the information that I could find on rotated reverse varieties in the Seated half dime series. All of the varieties mentioned were represented in my collection except for the 1857 half dime with the reverse rotated 170° that you described on page 25 of Collective Volume Number One of the *Journal.* I had never seen or heard of this variety discussed anywhere else. Amazingly, within only a few weeks of reading about this variety, I discovered an XF example of it in a small antique shop in rural Maine. Is it coincidence that I found this example so soon after reading your article? Do we see such things only after they have been called to our attention? I recall finding *thr*ee examples of the 1858-0 obverse die cracked half dime, first discovered by Al Blythe, within months of reading his article on this variety. There may be a lesson in this for all of us. Perhaps we should be more alert in the study of every coin that passes through our hands.

Stephen A. Crain
LSCC #1017

On a recent trip to Fort Worth, Texas I had an opportunity to visit the shop of a coin dealer who frequently advertises in *Coin World.* While browsing through his Seated inventory, I came across no less than four fake coins, all with added mintmarks. I saw an 1856-S quarter with a small s added and three 1871-CC dollars, all with mintmarks stuck on. I thought seeing three counterfeit coins of the same date at the same place was quite an uncommon event. Buyers beware! I hope that this note will be of some help to fellow collectors.

Ron Feuer
LSCC #775

We would like to respond to Lawrence Rogak's recent article on the circulation life of Liberty Seated coinage that appeared in Issue #46 of the *Journal.* In particular, we would like to comment on his statement that "Liberty Seated dollars were never used as money in the United States but were all exported."

We strongly believe that Liberty Seated dollars of all dates and mints were released as money and did indeed circulate as evidenced by the many well worn dollars offered for sale in trade publications. All dates are available in circulated grades except for the 1873-S. If these dollars were mostly melted or exported, there would be many dates that would be impossible to locate in the series and we know that not to be the case.

Additionally, if hundreds of bags containing one thousand coins each were exported to foreign banks, one would expect to find a few bags still available deep in the vaults of these banks, much like the bags of gold coins that were exported and later found in European and South American banks in the 1960s. Many of these gold coins have been brought back to the United States, but we have never heard of any Liberty Seated dollars being found or returned. No doubt some Liberty Seated dollars were melted and some were exported, but we believe that many were also used as money in commerce.

John Kroon
LSCC #472

Weimar White
LSCC#660

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REVERSE PICTURE OF 1878-S HALF DOLLAR

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